

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 APRIL 1985

Sudan

Consultations are underway with trade unions and parties to form a new government, which could take as little as "weeks if not days" if parties agree, Armed Forces Commander in Chief General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab said in remarks broadcast by Omdurman radio. While disclosing that he has sent an envoy to arrange talks with Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) Commander in Chief John Garang de Mabior, he said it is "impossible" to meet Garang's 7-day deadline for the formation of a civilian government. Addressing economic priorities, Siwar al-Dhahab thanked the United States for its support and noted that bilateral relations remain "good." He also announced the government's intention to reopen Khartoum airport very soon.

Discussing the former government in an *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* interview reported by Cairo radio, Siwar al-Dhahab said that former President Ja'far Numayri will not be prevented from returning, although he noted that some leaders will face trial. Meanwhile, MENA noted the release of the former information minister and SUNA cited a new government decree which recognizes all existing laws until they are repealed or amended.

In a later development, Omdurman radio broadcast a statement by the "Congregation of the National Forces for the Salvation of the Country" praising the "vanguard role" played by Garang's movement but disagreeing with the latter's denunciation of the new military regime. Asserting that the Armed Forces are genuinely committed to transferring power to the "national forces" as soon as possible, the statement called on Garang to participate in forming a national government. Nevertheless, Garang's clandestine SPLA radio continued to castigate the new regime, contending that Siwar al-Dhahab was brought to power by the CIA as a "smarter stooge" than Numayri.

As for foreign relations, Sudanese sources cited by Kuwait's *AL-SIYASAH* predicted that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will arrive in Khartoum for talks with Siwar al-Dhahab shortly. Monitored Egyptian media have not confirmed this. Saudi King Fahd sent a congratulatory cable to Siwar al-Dhahab stressing the Kingdom's "strong ties" with Sudan, according to Riyadh radio.

PLO-Jordan

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Jordanian King Husayn made a "comprehensive evaluation" of the 11 February PLO-Jordanian agreement during talks at Al-Nadwah Palace late on 10 April, Amman radio disclosed. 'Arafat had arrived in Amman from Tunis earlier in the day, stressing his view that the 11 February agreement is an "important achievement," the radio noted. A Palestinian source cited by Radio Monte Carlo stated that 'Arafat would meet a U.S. Congressional delegation in Amman on 11 April.

Lebanon

Prime Minister Rashid Karami, in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio, announced his intention to boycott Cabinet meetings pending a solution of the problems that have impeded implementation of measures to resolve the crisis in Sidon. The announcement followed a cabinet meeting during which President Amin al-Jumayyil acknowledged that efforts to deal with the situation have thus far proved fruitless, though he noted that the Army Command has been instructed to provide the equipment necessary for the dispatch of reinforcements to the south, according to the radio. As for the recent Christian conference in Bkirki, Karami welcomed its "positive" stands in a subsequent statement reported by the radio. However, in remarks broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt and Islamic Unification Movement leader Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban dismissed the Christian call for an Islamic-Christian conference.

Syria

Syria needs to concentrate on improving agricultural production and establishing new industries providing consumer products, President Hafiz al-Asad told the new cabinet in remarks reported by Damascus television. Attributing the country's economic problems to "failures at various levels," Al-Asad said officials should be accountable for any dereliction of duty.

Iraq-FRG

The Iraqi Government has declared the FRG charge d'affaires persona non grata and asked him to leave the country within a week because of his "impertinent" and "flagrant" interference in Iraq's international affairs, an Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman announced in a statement reported by INA. The FRG Foreign Ministry has no knowledge of actions by the charge d'affaires which were irreconcilable with his status as a diplomat, according to an FRG spokesman in Bonn cited by DPA.

Iran-Iraq War

IRNA reported that Iraqi planes and artillery continued to use chemical weapons against Iranian troops on the southern fronts. A Joint Staff communique cited by the agency stated that over 100 Iranians were injured by such weapons the night of 9 April.

Pakistan

The new cabinet, listed by Karachi radio, contains nine new appointments while four ministers from the previous administration retain their posts. Some of the new appointees are technical experts with no previous government experience, according to AFP.

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BAHRAIN

Interior Minister Returns From Visit to Kuwait

GF101840 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Manama, 10 Apr (WAKH) — Bahrain's Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah returned home from Kuwait today after a 3-day visit.

In an arrival statement Shaykh Muhammad praised the outcome of his talks with his Kuwait counterpart Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Sabah and other senior officials. He described the talks as "successful and fruitful," adding that they centred on bilateral cooperation and coordination in the security field. The talks also covered the current Gulf situation.

Shaykh Muhammad praised the high standard of efficiency the Kuwaiti security operation has achieved and announced that his visit has been successful. He added that his talks with his Kuwaiti counterpart Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad and senior officials in the Ministry of Interior will develop cooperation between the two countries in maintaining security.

Shaykh Muhammad met Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah and reviewed with him regional developments and issues of common interest. He also discussed with head of Kuwait's National Assembly Ahmad al-Sa'dun on the promotion of relations between the two countries.

Kuwaiti Information Minister Arrives From Riyadh

GF101946 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Manama, 10 Apr (WAKH) — Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'Abd al-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad and Kuwaiti Information Minister Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad al-Sabah arrived in Manama this evening from Riyadh after participating in the meetings of the ninth conference of Arabian Gulf information ministers which concluded its work there last night.

In a statement on arrival, the Kuwaiti information minister said that the meeting approved a number of important resolutions related to the consolidation of cooperation and coordination among the Arabian Gulf states in the information fields. He hailed the constructive and positive resolutions passed by the conference. He described the meetings of the conference as successful.

He pointed out that the conference has formed an evaluation and follow-up committee under the chairmanship of UAE Information Minister Shaykh Ahmad ibn Hamid for considering and evaluating some institutions and their advantages. He said that the next conference of information ministers will be held in Iraq in March next year. He said that this conference will be preceded by a special meeting by the Arabian Gulf information ministers next October.

In his statement, the Kuwaiti information minister spoke about the role of WAKH in the region and said: It is considered to be the official organ of the Arabian Gulf states. He stressed the

necessity of providing the agency with all means of support and assistance. He hailed the aid and support offered to the agency by the Bahraini Government by providing it with the premises and other comprehensive facilities so that the agency can play its role properly in the fields of news coverage, in communicating the progress of civilization being witnessed by the region's states to the outside world, and in covering local and Arab events.

KUWAIT

Prime Minister on Economy, Internal Security

GF101914 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 9 Apr 85
pp 1, 15

[Jasim al-Mutawa' report]

[Excerpts] In an exclusive statement to *AL-WATAN*, the heir apparent and prime minister said that the priorities of the government include first and foremost the questions of the economy and housing. The finance and economy minister is holding continuous meetings with the governor of the Central Bank for the purpose of completing discussions of economic questions and reaching solutions to these questions which concern all.

Shaykh Sa'd said: The economic situation is affected by local and international factors. The international factors are not subjected to our will. For example, the Iraq-Iran war influences our economic situation and causes fear. If this war stops, then the situation will be different for our economic activity.

Regarding the budget which is in the process of being prepared, the heir apparent and prime minister expects that the deficit will continue, but he affirmed that this deficit will not be financed from the reserve account of the coming generations. He said that on the contrary this reserve should be not touched and that it will receive its allocations as usual. His highness attributed the continuation of the deficit to the oil situation and the reduction of prices. He said: However, I do not support price increase and I hope that the demand for oil will increase in the coming months.

Answering a question about internal security, his highness said: The security organs are operating silently and quietly with regard to the discovery of crimes, upgrading of qualifications, and training of the workers of the concerned organs whether in Arab countries, the United States, or Canada, and the introduction of modern crime-fighting methods.

However, it is important for citizens to cooperate with the security men, because these men cannot follow up crime alone. The role of the citizen is basic; when he acts, he does so out of conscience. He is not working as a secret policeman, but he is playing his role as a citizen without the need to reveal the secrecy of the source. This is what happens in many countries in the world.

Concluding his statement, the heir apparent and prime minister said that there will be no tolerance with regard to security. He said that the date of his expected visit to the United States has not been set and that contacts are being held to set the date.

OMAN

Information Minister Returns From GCC Conference

GF101828 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas and the delegation accompanying him today returned to the country from the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, after heading the Sultanate's delegation at the Arabian Gulf information ministers' conference which ended in Riyadh yesterday.

QATAR

Oil Minister Discusses North Field Project

GF101310 Doha QNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Doha, 10 Apr (QNA) — Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, minister of finance and oil and chairman of the committee in charge of implementing the north field project, stated that work is proceeding on this vital project according to plan. The first stage of the project will be completed in 1988.

He added that the next stage will be the appointment of a technical adviser for the project, and that the tasks of the technical adviser for the project have been fixed. The documents concerning the invitation of international engineering companies to submit applications in the near future have been completed.

His highness said that due to the great interest in this adviser position by a great number of international engineering companies, it has been decided to give consideration to those companies with the proven efficiency, capability, and expertise needed for the size of this great project and its technical, engineering, and administrative demands, and companies which have experience in conducting such work.

SAUDI ARABIA

Sudanese Envoy Affirms 'Firmness' of Ties

LD102241 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2156 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Jeddah, 10 Apr (SPA) — Sudan's ambassador to the Kingdom, 'Isa Mustafa, has affirmed the firmness of Saudi-Sudanese relations, terming them profound and historic. In the name of the Sudanese people he expressed his thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and to the crown prince and the Saudi people for their interest in what is taking place in Sudan and their permanent support to the Sudanese people, saying that the Kingdom had given the Sudan continuous assistance.

He expressed his belief that the new Sudanese leadership will adhere to the application of the Islamic Shari'a, pointing out that the commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces, General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, has promised to transfer power to the people and that he will implement what he promises. In a press statement published today [11 April] the Sudanese

ambassador said that all Sudanese opposition abroad will return to Sudan to help build the country. He asserted that the situation in Sudan is calm and stable, pointing out that a committee has been set up and is discussing conciliation with southern Sudan and the realization of the wishes of the citizens there.

Riyadh: Sudanese Events Internal Matter

LD102125 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Apr 85

[From "News and Comment" program presented by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] The Sudanese leaders continue to define Sudan's future on the bases of national unity and bolstering the nation's march toward the realization of the aspirations of Sudan and the Sudanese.

The recent events in fraternal Sudan are a purely internal matter which concerns only the brothers in the fraternal country. This is because the whole matter is essentially concerned with arranging and tidying up their affairs and they are in the best position to know how to tackle and deal with them by virtue of their national feelings — deep feelings of love for their homeland and of truly belonging to it.

The Sudanese people have their own mature view and true understanding of the real facts surrounding them. They have the capabilities that enable them to tackle their problems and find the solutions that will serve their aspirations for a better future and provide them with the glory and strength they desire, as stated by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz in his cable to the new Sudanese leader in which he prayed to God to protect Sudan and its people and guide them toward the advancement and progress they seek. In his cable, King Fahd expressed his feelings of reciprocal love and strong ties between the peoples of both countries.

In his reply cable to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, General Siwar al-Dhahab sought to consecrate these meanings. He conveyed in this cable his own gratitude and those of the Sudanese people, affirming that the Sudanese leadership and people look forward to the development of good relations between the Kingdom and Sudan.

The brothers in fraternal Sudan have shouldered their national responsibilities. They are highly equipped to do so by their pride, nobleness, and strong attachment to their homeland, which are prominent characteristics of the Sudanese personality. These characteristics are clearly reflected by the way the Sudanese people tackle their internal problems and deal with their Arab cause.

In view of this, the Arabs, as they follow with extreme interest the development of events on the Sudanese arena, are fully confident that these developments are under the control of the Sudanese leadership and people, in a reassuring way that calls for confidence in the future of the fraternal country and its people.

All that the brother Arabs wish for this fraternal Arab country is that God may make its leaders and sons successful in achieving the glory and strength they are seeking. The glory and strength of Sudan constitute a glory and strength for the Arab and Islamic nation because of the effective and influential role this country plays in building the Arab man in a genuine way, based on making this man the center of this building and the hub of the building and development operation.

AL-JAZIRAH Comments on Sudan's Arab Role

*GF110714 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT
11 Apr 85*

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the situation in Sudan, the newspaper *AL-JAZIRAH* said in its editorial today, that the interest of the Arab and Islamic nations lies in Sudan's stability, its economic progress, and the restoration of its political power. It can play its vital pan-Arab role in the struggle of its Arab and Islamic nation to regain its occupied territories, and its usurped rights, and for the sake of propagating Islam.

By virtue of its strategic geographical situation, Sudan can confront attempts to spread any other contradictory principles and also confront attempts by some big powers to extend their control over the Horn of Africa. This is strategically important to the security of the Red Sea and the security of this sensitive African region which is tied to the Arab world by the Islamic creed and economic and commercial interests.

YAR

AL-THAWRAH on Nation's 'Clear' Foreign Policy

*GF102016 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] *AL-THAWRAH* in today's issue carried an editorial describing our country's foreign policy as being well-defined with all the countries of the world.

It said that this policy has been characterized by wisdom and pragmatism with regard to the objective viewing of international cooperation within the framework of common interest and factors and noninterference in internal affairs.

The paper referred to the ceremonies held yesterday on the occasion of the president receiving the credentials of the ambassadors of the PRC, Cuba, Japan, and Guinea. It said: These ceremonies carried within them what stresses the credibility of our constant and principled adherence to nonalignment and positive neutrality.

Doubtless, within the framework of this positive trend which has been based on the aims of the immortal 26 September Revolution, we will play our positive roles in supporting the liberation and human issues. The most important of these issues is the Palestinian cause which has been supported by all good, international, and humane sides. We will make it our cause and place it in the bosom of our list of national tasks.

AL-SIYASAH: Mubarak Expected To Visit Sudan*GF101236 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 9 Apr 85 p 1*

[Excerpt] Well-informed Sudanese sources have opined that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will visit Khartoum toward the end of this week. These sources told *AL-SIYASAH* that they expect this visit to take place, at the latest, on Thursday or Friday. They said that Mubarak will hold discussions with the new Sudanese leader, 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, on the latest developments in Sudan and future political work in Khartoum.

Armed Forces Complete Maneuvers 10 Apr*NC101530 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] The Armed Forces conducted the final phase of the maneuvers codenamed "Fath" today. Personnel of the various branches of the Armed Forces took part in the maneuvers. Preparations began 3 months ago and the actual maneuvers began at the beginning of this week.

The final phase of the maneuvers was attended by Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, and Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production. Delegations from Iraq, Jordan, and the UAE as well as military attaches in Cairo also attended the maneuvers.

Yugoslav Prime Minister Postpones Visit to Cairo*NC101009 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0950 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] Belgrade, 10 Apr (MENA) — The MENA correspondent in Belgrade has learned that Yugoslav Prime Minister Milka Planic has put off a visit to Egypt that was scheduled for the end of April. A new date for the visit will be set following consultation between the two governments.

The postponement is due to engagements that the Yugoslav prime minister has at home during this period.

Libya Redeploys Planes Based in Ethiopia*NC111135 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0942 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] Cairo, 11 Apr (MENA) — According to tomorrow's edition of the weekly magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR*, the 20 Libyan planes that Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi deployed at an Ethiopian airport for use in the event of an emergency will soon fly back to Libya. Their mission, the magazine says, is no longer being considered now that Sudan's new leadership obviously has popular support. The magazine adds that Libya's disappointment was reflected in a recent statement by its foreign minister, 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki. He said in so many words that the new regime in Khartoum won't be any worse than the old one.

Commentary Views Sudan, Al-Qadhafi's 'Illusions'*NC101458 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Hasan Fu'ad Commentary: "The Sudanese People Have Triumphed to the Disappointment of Al-Qadhafi"]

[Excerpts] The telephone conversation that was conducted yesterday between President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces, is not the first communication between Egypt and the new Sudanese leadership. There have been contacts with the new leaders in Sudan from the moment the Sudanese Army declared its support for the Sudanese masses, who took to the streets in Khartoum declaring their position and demanding their legitimate rights.

The Sudanese Armed Forces decided to side with the people and support their demands instead of oppressing or intimidating the people. The Armed Forces in Sudan started playing its natural role in introducing changes for the better with the aim to preserve the national unity of the Sudanese people at all levels and to abort any seditious schemes. When the people realized that their demands were being defended by their Armed Forces, demonstrations and strikes ended, the wheel of production resumed turning, and life returned to normal in the capital and in other Sudanese towns. Even the rebels in the southern provinces declared their support for the new leaders. The Armed Forces and trade unions agreed on the need to transfer authority to the people as soon as possible and to restore democracy to the country.

All colonialist attempts over the past years have failed to drive a wedge between the two fraternal countries — Egypt and Sudan. All these attempts have rendered the ties between the two countries even stronger. It is, therefore, quite strange for a man like Libya's ruler Colonel al-Qadhafi not to understand the lessons of history or recall the events of the near or distant past. He is still immersed in his illusions, believing that he can play the role which the colonialists tried for dozens of years and failed — the role of intriguing between Egypt and Sudan. Al-Qadhafi, who is an opportunist by nature, always believes that any changes will be in favor of his sick ideas and his theories which are now the object of ridicule and lamentation. Al-Qadhafi has employed all his efforts over the past years to incite riots and foment trouble in Sudan and to drive a wedge among the Sudanese factions. His radio has even portrayed the Sudanese people as being divided into factions and sects. Al-Qadhafi's attempts had no better luck than those of the colonialists in the past — they failed utterly. There is no doubt that he is now isolated because the Sudanese people's Arabism and patriotism have triumphed over illusions and idle talk.

AL-AKHBAR Article Urges Caution on Sudanese Coup*PM110827 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 8 Apr 85 p 3*

[Muhammad 'Abd al-Mun'im Murad article: "A Few Words"]

[Text] We write cautiously about the recent coup d'etat in Sudan. We do not do so out of embarrassment because there is nothing

to be embarrassed about, but caution is a must because of the lack of information regarding what happened, what is likely to happen in the near and distant future.

One indication of the lack of information is the fact that pictures of the popular demonstrations which occurred 5 or 6 days ago were published in the Egyptian press only yesterday. We used to listen to the stories of the travelers from that fraternal country and to foreign radio reports without finding space in our press to publish these reports for reasons which some people considered to be convincing while others did not. The available information is also incomplete despite the communiques issued by the new leadership. Time is needed before inclinations and intentions can be reflected in deeds and not just in words.

There is insufficient information as to what will happen in the near and distant future. We cannot predict the future. The situation in Sudan is too difficult to enable one to clearly predict the future in a few clear words. The proof is that the whole world, with the exception of Al-Qadhdhafi, has been cautious in commenting on the situation and predicting what is likely to happen. Nobody pays attention to what Al-Qadhdhafi says.

However, all that should not prevent us from saying that there are certain principles which should be our guidelines. The first principle is that Sudan is not Ja'far Numayri any more than it is 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahb. Sudan is the Sudanese people. The Armed Forces are an integral part of the Sudanese people. We deal with any Sudanese leader not in his personal capacity but in his capacity as the head of a state with which we have the closest and strongest ties. No state on earth enjoys closer ties with us than Sudan and its people.

The second point is that what is happening in Sudan is something which purely and solely concerns the Sudanese people. All we have to do is stand with the Sudanese people against any foreign interference or plots, but their domestic affairs are their own business and neither we nor anyone else has a trusteeship over them.

The third point we must draw attention to is that Egyptian-Sudanese relations will flourish and grow stronger if the Sudanese people manage to express themselves with freedom and democracy which they are certainly eager to uphold. Relations between free people are the strongest and most capable of surmounting difficulties and problems.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Communique No 1,800

JN101644 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT
10 Apr 85

[Communique No 1,800 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 10 April 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant Armed Forces reaffirm to the renegade Iranian rulers that the daily blows they are receiving will continue with more force and with all means if they persist with the policy of war and aggression and that their only way out is to acknowledge the principle of comprehensive peace.

The following are the most important activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Our gigantic Air Force planes pursue the criminal enemy wherever it may be. Our planes raided the defeated enemy's remnants and their supply routes in the operational sector east of Tigris, inflicting on them the punishment they deserve. Our Air Force carried out 87 combat missions, after which the hawks of the air returned safely to the beloved homeland, praise be to God.

2. Our daring helicopter gunships continue their splendid combat sorties over enemy troop concentrations, positions, and boats in the operational sector east of Basra, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment on them. Our helicopter gunships destroyed 14 infantry positions; 8 boats, whose occupants were killed; several enemy troop concentrations and hideouts; and damaged 6 tanks, which were seen on fire. All of our helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. One of our forward units ambushed enemy boats and troops in the Maysan sector. Our hero fighters fired on the boats as they approached the ambush area, killing more than 19 enemy troops and destroying 4 boats and 6 marsh boats. Confusion prevailed in enemy ranks. All the fighters who laid the ambush returned safely to their positions. In another area of the same sector one infantry position was destroyed and five enemy troops were killed.

4. Several formations belonging to our forward units used artillery and other types of weapons to deal fierce and concentrated strikes against enemy targets in the operational sector east of Basra, scoring effective hits. Our formations also killed one enemy soldier and destroyed three infantry positions and one medium caliber machinegun position, whose crew was killed.

5. One machinegun position was destroyed and its crew was killed in the Central sector of the battlefield.

6. Escaping the tyranny of the clique ruling Iran, new groups of Iranian civilians sought refuge with our forward units on the battlefronts and were safely evacuated to the rear.

7. The rancorous enemy shelled Basra and its environs at various times yesterday evening and today with long range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 April 1985

Jets Raid 4 Cities

JN111105 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1054 GMT
11 Apr 85

[Unscheduled announcement by military spokesman]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The crushing blows great Iraq is directing to its enemies, the criminal Iranian rulers, are the just punishment for their insistence on war so that they will know well Iraq's reply to their hostile actions against purely residential areas in our country. Our Air Force, Iraq's capable arm, carried out destructive strikes against the cities of Ilam, Dehloran, Gilan-e Gharb, and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab at 1000 [0600 GMT] today. After the staunch sky hawks had pounded their targets accurately, they returned safely with their aircraft, praise be to God. We will continue to rap the empty Khomeyniite heads in retaliation for their cowardly acts until they recognize Iraq's right and submissively yield to the call of comprehensive peace. It is God who grants help and success.

Iran Preparing for Offensive

JN111158 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT
11 Apr 85

[Text] The Armed Forces General Command met this morning under the chairmanship of Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces. During this meeting, the conferees affirmed the implementation of the measures decided at the previous meetings aimed at wiping out the enemy if it is tempted to get involved in a new hostile action against our territory.

An authorized spokesman for the Armed Forces General Command stated the following after the meeting: The setback suffered by the enemy in the second east of Tigris battle has caused the enemy to lose its psychological and political balance, in addition to its destructive military and material effects. Therefore, our information indicates that instead of resorting to wisdom that might have remained in its mind, the enemy is preparing for a new offensive, hoping to obtain any result that may heal some of its wounds, blind vanity, and deep-rooted malice. We have precise information about the enemy's concentrations, the directions of the new offensive, and this offensive's new combat and technical methods whether against the east of Tigris sector or other directions. Our preparations have been completed, incorporating the latest information, in order to fight the enemy and wipe out its force and teach it the additional lessons it needs before it comes to the sound path — the path of logic and peace. Success comes from God. He is the best to protect and the best to help.

[Dated] 11 April 1985

Artillery Fire Hits Mosque*JN111533 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] Basra, 11 Apr (INA) — The ancient grand mosque of Imam 'Ali in Basra was exposed to Iranian artillery shelling today, severely damaging the mosque's minaret and its prayer niche (mihrab). The INA Basra correspondent said that the Iranian shelling also hit the building that houses the Iraqi archaeological team that is supervising the renovation and doing maintenance work on the mosque. It is noteworthy that the mosque is an ancient, sacred historical site and that the Iraqi leadership has been taking exceptional care of it and maintaining it on a permanent basis.

Blockade of Ports, Airspace To Continue*JN110917 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0615 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Apr (INA) — *AL-JUMHURIYAH* stresses that Iraq will continue to deal devastating blows to selected targets deep inside Iran until the Iranian regime humbly agrees to a comprehensive solution to the conflict. In its editorial today, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says: Iraq will also continue to tighten the blockade on Iranian ports and airspace until the Iranian regime comes to its senses. The paper adds: Iraq is accurately monitoring all Iranian movements to know what the Iranian rulers have in mind and what their evil intentions are against Iraq. The paper affirms Iraq's great readiness to inflict more catastrophes on Iran and its peoples.

AL-JUMHURIYAH explains: Iraq has every right to deal blows against the Iranian regime's troops and to be tough with them because they are first and last aggressive invaders. The paper points out that Iraq has warned the Iranian rulers several times and has given them many chances, but they have become more intransigent and arrogant and exploited these chances to inflict more harm on Iraq and its people.

Concluding, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* affirms that Iraq will confront the Iranian regime and respond violently and destructively to every criminal attack perpetrated by its forces. It will destroy every aggressive adventure and punish Iran severely for it.

National Assembly Hails Kuwaiti Assembly Stand*JN110911 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0805 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Apr (INA) — The Iraqi National Assembly has hailed the Kuwaiti National Assembly's pan-Arab and fraternal stand toward Iraq and its support for Iraq's right to self-defense, and territorial unity, as well as the people's safety from the Iranian aggression. In a message to Kuwaiti National Assembly Speaker Hamad al-Sa'dun, National Assembly Speaker Dr Sa'dun Hammadi said: We in Iraq pledge that we will remain committed to Arab national rights in all places and at all times against those with ambitious designs or against occupiers, regardless of the slogans they hide behind. He added: We believe that Arabism will overcome all internal and external challenges led by Zionist and Persian aggressions against our glorious Arab nation. We work to achieve freedom for the homeland and for the citizen's freedom, development, and progress.

He explained that the Iraqi people's representatives are presently firmly struggling to achieve a comprehensive peaceful just solution to all aspects of the dispute with Iran that would guarantee both sides' rights and non-interference in the other's internal affairs. He affirmed that Iraq would triumph because it is right and just and also because the desire for peace and prosperity will prevail and force the symbols of aggression, racism, and expansion to submit to the will of mankind.

Trade Delegation Leaves for Ankara 11 Apr*JN111047 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0957 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Apr (INA) — Trade Ministry Under Secretary Abu Talib 'Abd al-Muttalib al-Hashimi left for Ankara today at the head of a trade delegation on a visit of several days to Turkey. During the visit the Iraqi official will participate in the meetings of the joint Iraqi-Turkish Committee on Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, which will resume its activities there tomorrow. The Committee will discuss prospects for developing cooperation in various economic fields between the two countries.

Reportage on Visit by PLO Chairman 'Arafat**Received by King Husayn***JN101749 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at Al-Nadwah Palace a short while ago. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, Jordanian Armed Forces commander in chief; 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, deputy prime minister and education minister; Hazim Nusaybah, minister of state for prime ministry affairs; Interior Minister Hasan al-Kayid; Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri; Tariq Ala' al-Din, director of the General Intelligence Department; and Raja'i al-Dajani, secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court.

On the Palestinian side, the meeting was attended by PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih; PLO Executive Committee members 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya and Muhammad Milhim; Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to 'Arafat; and Fatah Central Committee member Sulayman al-Shurafa. The meeting will be interrupted with a working dinner.

To Meet U.S. Congressmen*JN110102 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
11 Apr 85 pp 1, 2*

[By Salamah B. Ni'matt]

[Excerpts] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat Wednesday held a "comprehensive review" of the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the PLO on a formula for joint action towards settling the Palestinian problem. PETRA which reported the meeting said the two leaders reviewed the "Arab and international stands towards the agreement" and "discussed the steps for joint moves on the international arena." It was the first meeting between the king and Mr. 'Arafat after they signed the Feb. 11 agreement.

The king had earlier met with Congressman Levine during which they discussed the recent developments in the area, particularly the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the PLO. Mr. Levine, a member of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee and the sub-committee for Europe and the Middle East, also met with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, the Jordanian News Agency, PETRA, said. He is also expected to meet with other Jordanian officials.

Mr. 'Arafat, who arrived here earlier Wednesday on a three-day visit, is scheduled to meet with an eight-member team from the U.S. Congress on Thursday, the PLO chairman's close aide Nabil 'Amr said.

Mr. 'Amr, a member of the Central Committee of Fatah, said the PLO leader's scheduled meeting with the U.S. congressmen

was part of "continued contacts between the PLO and the U.S. government."

"Our channels are always open with the Americans," Mr. 'Amr said. "The meeting was scheduled to take place today (Wednesday), but was postponed until Thursday," he added.

A spokesman for the U.S. embassy declined to confirm or deny the scheduled meeting. However, the spokesman said that David Obey, head of the House of Representatives Appropriations Sub-Committee for Foreign Operations, was expected to arrive Thursday at the head of a seven-member delegation.

Apparently Mr. Levine and the seven others arriving Thursday are expected to meet Mr. 'Arafat.

The U.S. embassy spokesman also said that Washington State Senator Daniel Evans, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is expected to visit Amman later. The spokesman did not give a date for Sen. Daniel's visit.

Received by Al-Rifa'i*JN111233 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT
11 Apr 85*

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the prime ministry today. Attending on the Jordanian side were the Royal Hashemite Court Chief; the court minister, the deputy prime minister, and education minister; the foreign minister; and the director of the General Intelligence Department. Attending on the Palestinian side were 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee member; and Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member. During this meeting, which lasted about 3 hours, they evaluated and analyzed the general position concerning the Palestinian question and the new stage that stemmed from the 11 February Jordanian-Palestinian joint action agreement. The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the agreement's positive effect in the international arena. They agreed on a number of joint steps to be adopted in this regard on Arab and international levels.

Meets in Closed Session*JN111531 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT
11 Apr 85*

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon. They held a closed meeting.

Al-Rifa'i Stresses Importance of PLO Agreement*JN110756 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
11 Apr 85 p 1*

[Tawfiq al-'Abid dispatch]

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has described the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement as an expression of unity

between the East and West Banks, adding that this agreement will not be relinquished under any circumstances whatsoever. Speaking to a Palestinian delegation led by PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih the day before yesterday, Al-Rifa'i said: This agreement will not be revoked and we are together on the joint road until the end. The prime minister stressed the importance of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and said: Improvement of relations between Jordan and any Arab country will be in favor of the Arab cause and will bolster ties with the PLO.

Al-Rifa'i Meets Members of Business Community

*JN101345 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has asserted the government's concern that the public and private sectors activate the Jordanian economy at this stage. He said that the government intends to tackle the negative points and remove all obstacles and practices which have prevented the private sector from playing its complete role in boosting the Jordanian economy. This came during a meeting with the heads and members of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The prime minister said: The objective of the meeting is to implement the royal instructions contained in the letter of designation on stressing the role of the private sector in boosting the Kingdom's economy.

The prime minister reviewed the government's plan to tackle the economic situation in the Kingdom. He said: In order to tackle this situation, the government will proceed from two bases: First, the private sector will be given a role in boosting the Jordanian economy by removing the obstacles so that it can play its required role within a few days. Second, we then move to the stage of strategic planning represented in the next 5-year-plan, which is aimed at entrenching, deepening, and expanding the private sector's role. Plans for useful projects will be made and implemented as soon as possible, in order to achieve a large and rapid development in the fields of industry, economy, tourism, services, and agriculture to encourage investment; and to provide the necessary legal protection.

Zayd al-Rifa'i said: The state's sound financial situation in both the public and private sectors can only be achieved on a broad and solid economic base. He added: The government will support the Jordanian economy being a free economy. He added: The government will support the private sector. The public sector's role will be confined to planning, guiding, and controlling. The government will work with you in order to maintain the freedom of movement and behavior. Each problem will be discussed at every stage, so that possible solutions are found. The prime minister said: The government will give the private sector the opportunity to participate in defining and solving the problems, after reaching a joint understanding.

The government informed the heads and members of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry that the government will work to remove pricing controls from materials which are of no concern to the government. However, we will maintain pricing controls on the basic food stuffs which are imported by the Ministry of Supply. We will also maintain pricing controls in the fields where

the government should prevent the so-called immoderate profits. The government will interfere when it feels that individual practices will lead to monopoly or illogical profits. The government will only interfere within these limits.

The prime minister called on the functionaries of the private sector to participate with the government in shouldering the responsibility, taking public interests into consideration. This is because we are all organs of one body, and we cannot treat one organ at the expense of others. He said: The government is ready to cooperate with the private sector, provided that this trend is met with a similar trend. We must begin immediately in order to reach the level His Majesty King Husayn desires for his homeland and citizens. He said: The government will work to immediately implement that on which we all agree.

Hamdi al-Tabba', head of the Amman Chamber of Commerce, then spoke, asserting the private sector's readiness to open a chapter of constructive cooperation with the government in order to serve the Jordanian economy. The head of the Amman Chamber of Commerce presented the demands of the trade sector, including giving the private sector the opportunity to participate with the government in fixing prices and in defining new import systems, particularly for products that are similar to Jordanian products. He expressed the private sector's readiness to supply the local market in Jordan with necessary materials.

'Isam Budayr, head of the Amman Chamber of Industry, also spoke at the meeting. He presented a number of demands related to the industrial sector which aim at encouraging and protecting local industries, encouraging exports, giving permits to exporters, and organizing trade exchange. A number of members from the Chambers of Commerce and Industry pointed out certain bases and measures related to supporting economy.

An expanded discussion then took place in which the prime minister and the ministers of finance, industry, trade, and supply and planning participated. They replied to the demands and suggestions presented by the members of the Amman Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The prime minister said: The government will deal with trade functionaries in accordance with the open door policy in order to serve Jordanian economy. He asserted the government's concern about providing opportunities for expatriates to contribute to supporting the Jordanian economy.

In a statement to PETRA, Hamdi al-Tabba', head of the Amman Chamber of Commerce, said: The prime minister's call for meeting the private sector's functionaries honestly expresses the government's concern for developing and supporting the Jordanian economy. He added: As the letter of designation states, the private sector will play its role in backing the government's efforts to support the Jordanian economy, proceeding from its participation in shouldering the responsibility. He pointed out that the private sector began as of today to move toward activating the economic movement. The Amman Chamber of Commerce will soon begin to study the economic situation and find suitable solutions. Our objective is to mitigate the burdens of the citizen, the consumer.

'Isam Budayr, head of the Amman Chamber of Industry, said: We appreciate the government's trend in cooperating with the private sector in accordance with the instructions contained in His Majesty King Husayn's letter of designation. He said: The private sector is ready to prevent suggestions and solutions which will help activate the economic movement, taking public interests into consideration. He asserted the Amman Chamber of Industry's readiness to participate in planning for the success of the next 5-year-plan.

The meeting was attended by the ministers, members of the financial and economic committee, and the prime ministry's economic adviser.

Al-Rifa'i Receives Congratulations of Diplomats

*JN102015 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received the heads of diplomatic missions and the directors of the bureaus of international and regional organizations accredited to Jordan at his residence this afternoon.

Qatari Ambassador to Jordan Shaykh Hamad ibn Muhammad Al Thani, in his capacity as dean of the diplomatic corps, made a statement in which he congratulated the prime minister on the royal trust and wished the new government success in its mission.

The prime minister thanked the heads of the diplomatic missions and stressed Jordan's desire to strengthen relations with fraternal Arab and friendly countries.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

Egyptian Assistant Foreign Minister Departs

*JN101555 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] Amman — Egyptian Assistant Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Badawi left Amman this afternoon following a visit to Jordan that lasted several days. During the visit, he met with several senior Jordanian officials. He told PETRA-JNA that his visit to Jordan has been successful, pointing out that during the visit the Egyptian and Jordanian sides prepared for the meetings of the Jordanian-Egyptian joint committee to be held in Amman during the last part of April under the chairmanship of the two countries' prime ministers. Badawi also said that the committee will discuss the accomplishments of the two countries' relations and new spheres of cooperation. He expressed his hope that the 25 April opening of the land route between the two countries will mark the beginning of other accomplishments.

Transportation Minister Returns From Cairo

*JN102018 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] Minister of Transportation Farhi 'Ubayd returned to Amman today from Cairo along with an official delegation after a 3-day visit to Egypt. 'Ubayd told PETRA that the visit aimed at completing arrangements pertaining to operating the maritime and inland road which will link Jordan and the Arab Orient with Egypt and the Maghreb. He said that during his visit he met Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, who heads the Egyptian side in the joint Jordanian-Egyptian committee, for discussions on topics to be discussed by the committee at its next meeting in Amman this month.

Al-Jumayyil Chairs Cabinet Meeting 10 Apr

NC101632 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT
10 Apr 85

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil chaired the weekly Cabinet meeting this morning. The meeting was boycotted by Minister of State Nabih Birri and Minister of Public Works Walid Junblatt.

Senior members of the military command attended part of the Cabinet meeting.

They included Chief of Staff General Mahmud Abu Dargham, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations Brigadier Hasan Dahir, Deputy Chief of Staff for Equipment Brigadier Abu 'Awn, Director of Operations Colonel Jean Farah, Chief of Army Intelligence Colonel Simon Qassis, and Deputy Chief [of Army Intelligence] Colonel Nabil Farhat.

Army Commander General Michel 'Awn did not attend for what was described as health reasons.

At the opening of the meeting, President al-Jumayyil referred to the explosive situation in Sidon and noted that efforts to deal with the situation had not been fruitful.

He said that instructions have been given to the Army Command to provide needed equipment for the Armed Forces to be able to carry out their duties and to allow for the dispatching of any and all military personnel possible to the south, regardless of their present units, to strengthen Army units already in the area. He said that work was continuing on matters agreed upon at the B'abda Palace meeting on Saturday, but noted that some obstacles still remained unresolved.

The president also reported to the Cabinet on meetings yesterday in Beirut with UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart who was sounding out the viewpoint of Lebanon on the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate. The president said that Lebanon has requested special UN efforts to deal with the problem of the illegal transfer of Ansar prisoners to Israel as well as with Israeli practices in the south.

Health and Communications Minister Joseph al-Hashim warned that negative developments, especially in the south, could consecrate sectarian conditions in the country. Al-Hashim said that the decisions of the Bkirki conference should be followed up with preparations for a spiritual summit, the expansion of the Cabinet, and the convening of a national Christian-Islamic conference.

President al-Jumayyil stressed the need to benefit from the implementation of the Bkirki conference decisions to strengthen the solidarity of ranks and to foil all attempts to create division.

Economy and Industry Minister Victor Qasir reported to the Cabinet on the fuel situation. He noted that fuel was available in adequate quantities on the market, but he pointed out that merchants seeking to juggle prices and monopolize fuel sales have unloaded large quantities of fuel in Sidon and Tripoli and smuggled them on to the market in a bid to benefit from the subsidy provided by the industry ministry.

Cabinet Decision on Sidon

NC102104 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT
10 Apr 85

[Text] Informed sources revealed tonight that Cabinet resolutions regarding the dispatch of an Army battalion to Sidon include ordering the soldiers to deploy in areas facing the city. The resolutions include six provisions: There is to be an immediate cease-fire; an Army battalion is to enter Sidon; the Army is to receive resupplies of equipment and vehicles; the Army is to consolidate the cease-fire; Christian and Sunni evacuees are to return to their villages; and the Army is to deploy in Christian areas. Brigadier General Sami al-Khatib and Michel Samahah returned tonight from Damascus, where the atmosphere concerning the security plan for Sidon is described as positive.

Karami Comments on Bkirki Meeting, Sidon

NC102148 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT
10 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Official and political functionaries and delegations visited Prime Minister Rashid Karami's home this evening to express support for the prime minister's decision to boycott Cabinet sessions. Prime Minister Rasnid Karami received Dr Salim al-Huss at 2030 and they discussed security and political affairs. He then received a delegation of the emergency committee of the Ifta' Consultative Council, led by Shaykh Subhi Salih. The delegation conveyed the support of His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the republic, for the prime minister's decision. Shaykh Subhi Salih conveyed Mufti Khalid's support for the courageous step and asked the prime minister to brief him on the situation so that he can then explain it to Mufti Khalid.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami made the following statement:

Our fate is at stake. The issue concerns every citizen, regardless of his political or religious affiliation and trends, in confronting an enemy whose plots are evident against us and against our entity, homeland, and destiny. Therefore these plots make it incumbent upon everyone to shoulder responsibility as if he were in Sidon because the battle for existence is there.

Therefore, we must shoulder responsibility with patience, faith, and steadfastness to achieve the liberation of our country from the oppressive occupation. A conference was conveyed in Bkirki yesterday. I speak the truth when I say that the resolutions and positions resulting from the conference are positive. Indeed, we have continuously called for those things that the conference affirmed. Therefore, in my opinion, this national meeting was a meeting of principles and objectives, as well as a march along a common road, affirming and embodying the people's unity and the integration of territory and institutions.

When the uprising [Ja'ja' uprising] occurred in East Beirut we all became apprehensive and feared its reaction and results. The uprising was accompanied by the explosions in Sidon. In any event, we in the government have tried and will continue to try to work as much as our abilities will allow us. Our successive meetings through the Cabinet were meant especially to deal with this particular issue. At each Cabinet session we used to make the

appropriate decisions according to the needs of the time. However, in practice, there are problems with the implementation of most of these decisions. These problems do not allow us to immediately implement these solutions according to our capabilities.

Prime Minister Karami added: Last Saturday we attempted to draft a working program and timetable. We hoped that it would be implemented. However, as I said, the people expect a great deal. The least we can do is to offer them some of what we have. We used to talk about a Christian conference. This conference actually convened and was most successful.

Regarding the military situation, Prime Minister Karami said: Arrangements were made to dispatch some equipment and forces. I sensed something today in the Cabinet session which I would like to relate. Jean Farah said that there is a problem with dispatching 30 armored vehicles to the south. These vehicles are not destined for Sidon but for the 37th and 38th Battalions. The duty of these battalions is to fill the vacuum following the second phase of the Israeli withdrawal. I say: If one has a headache, must I cut his hand off in order to cure him? Today the pain is in Sidon. The salvation of Sidon is the salvation of Lebanon. This is a fact. I do not want to make accusations. However, what I have sensed in the Cabinet is all talk and decisions without action. Perhaps the Cabinet will correct itself. I must not participate in Cabinet sessions with the hope that my position will move matters along a correct course and will make each member committed to his responsibilities.

Prime Minister Karami added: Our objective is to rescue Sidon. Decisions have been made for this purpose, which must be implemented, irrespective of who is creating obstacles. The important thing is to implement these decisions. Why isn't this done? A sick person does not care if the medicine you give him is sweet or bitter. He only cares about getting well.

Asked if the crisis has been portrayed as a government crisis, Prime Minister Karami replied: I believe that this government embraces all the active parties who are present on the ground. I believe that any government which does not represent these parties will not be able to carry out its task. As long as these parties continue to be in the government, I believe that this government is the one which is necessary during the current phase.

Prime Minister Karami added: Unity is the means for achieving the objective of rescuing Lebanon on the bases which we believe are in the interest of all Lebanese. Therefore, I want to be honest and state the facts. The uprising in the eastern area confirms what I am saying, because its primary target was President Amin al-Jumayyil. It was not a personal attack against the president, but an attack against the positions adopted since the days of Geneva and Lausanne up to the Damascus summit meeting. These positions were embodied in the emergence of the national unity government and the government policy statement which defined our course of action by consecrating the principles that we regard as the foundation of new Lebanon.

Prime Minister Karami added: Therefore, when the 17 May agreement was abolished and Lebanon's Arab identity was sub-

sequently recognized, I believed that the path became clear. During the recent Bkirki conference, this was consecrated by the Christian functionaries who can speak in the name of the Christians. I would like to mention these things because choices have actually been made and have been embodied in practical positions which have supported the abolishment of the 17 May agreement. This is a basic step and a historic turning point. Lebanon's Arab identity has been consecrated. Lebanon's Arab identity has been legally consecrated through confidence given to the government's policy statement. Therefore, it is truly impermissible to deny these facts and gains, because a lot of struggling was necessary to achieve them. In my opinion, it is impermissible for us to deny what they [the Christians] have recognized, because such a denial would force the door of Jihad to be reopened.

Prime Minister Karami said: The subject of the Army is no secret, because everyone is aware of the Army's capabilities after 10 years of argument. The Army now comprises brigades and each brigade is present in a different area and city and each one of them, regrettably, has a sectarian character. All that we are working for is to reunite this Army and the soldiers around the national cause and the basic role of the Army; namely, to protect the homeland and the citizens. All of us are aware of the extent of the Army's capabilities. I do not deny that certain brigades have approximately 70 percent and others have only 10 percent of the necessary materiel. Arms that Lebanon bought 2 years ago are still not with the soldiers because, regrettably, confidence in the Army has not yet been restored.

Prime Minister Karami added: The door to national unity has been opened by our Christian brothers, who recently held an important meeting and expressed their views, which I believe to be compatible with our views. We must not lose this opportunity to achieve real unity in Lebanon. The people have sorted out the agents among them. This sorting out must provide an opportunity for the people to turn to each other and consecrate the correct political plan, and thus constitute the new charter for new Lebanon represented by all its communities and areas. I believe that the road has been opened in Bkirki. Let us pave this road through Dar al-Ifta'. This is how Lebanon can be rescued.

Al-Huss, Birri To Boycott Cabinet Sessions

NC101439 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1410 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Dr Salim al-Huss, minister of labor and education, has expressed his support for and solidarity with Prime Minister Rashid Karami's stand on the issue of Sidon.

In a similar development, Minister Nabih Birri said:

The prime minister's stand is similar to the stand we adopted a few months ago, especially when we realized that decisions remained unimplemented. We declare our solidarity with the prime minister.

We will refrain from attending Cabinet sessions until all Cabinet decisions have been implemented. All these decisions are mentioned in the government statement and there is no need, therefore, to name them.

***Usayran To Boycott Cabinet**

NC102045 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT
16 Apr 85

[Excerpt] 'Adil 'Usayran, national defense and agriculture minister, has declared his solidarity with Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Karami's boycott of Cabinet sessions until the resolutions regarding the situation in Sidon are implemented. 'Usayran joins Ministers Salim al-Huss, Nabih Birri, and Walid Junblatt, as well as Karami, in their boycott of the sessions.

Sha'ban, Junblatt on Bkirki Meeting, Karami

NC102004 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic
to Lebanon 1730 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Excerpts] At noon today, Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] received at Al-Mukhtarrah Palace the delegations of the Islamic Grouping and the Arab Democratic Party. The Islamic Grouping delegation comprised Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban and Malik 'Allush on behalf of the Islamic Unification Movement, Bilal Matar and Hasan Darwish on behalf of the Mosques Committees, and Kan'an Naji on behalf of Jundallah. The Arab Democratic Party delegation comprised Najah Qiz'awn and Ghassan al-'Aryan.

At the end of the meeting, Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban made the following statement:

[Begin recording][Unidentified reporter] Your Eminence, what is the nature of the talks you had with PSP leader Walid Junblatt?

[Sha'ban] We discussed everything that concerns Lebanon, particularly the liberated areas. We are defending these areas against the plots that are being concocted by the Israelis and Phalangists who are intransigently and impudently collaborating with U.S. imperialism. We came to Al-Mukhtarrah to assert that we are one nation and as such must confront the major plot with a unified decision and a unified military stand, because the battle is of a political and military nature. We must not adopt a unified political stand and leave our forces dispersed everywhere. Hence our meeting today, a meeting of those responsible for the future of generations.

We hope that this meeting will be a prelude to other meetings that will draw up a Jihad plan with which we can confront the Zionist enemy and its agents in the south and elsewhere. We hope that this meeting will produce a unified action and be the beginning of an action to serve Lebanon's unity and cohesion and wreck the Maronite political equation, which has been endeavoring to destroy Lebanon since 1943. The previous and present events are unequivocal evidence of the failure of the Maronite politics in ruling Lebanon. We hope that this first meeting will produce a joint action in Sidon, on the mountain, in Beirut, and everywhere.

[Reporter] Your Eminence, a few hours ago, Prime Minister Rashid Karami said he would boycott the Cabinet sessions because agreement over the security plan in Sidon is lacking.

[Sha'ban] I must say that the prime minister's decision came quite late. Nevertheless, I hope that the prime minister will persevere in his stand, because he often goes back on his decisions. I hope that the prime minister will, only once, insist on his stand. At any rate, the Tripoli delegations came to Al-Mukhtarrah to represent Muslim Tripoli, national Tripoli. We will no longer accept that anyone who sold us out to the Maronites, Phalangists, Lebanese Forces, and Israel represents us.

[Reporter] What is your comment on the resolutions of yesterday's Bkirki conference?

[Sha'ban] I believe that the Bkirki conference is a wise step merely as a face-saving device. The conference seeks to keep the Maronites as decisionmakers. It appears that the Maronites will call for an Islamic-Christian conference. However, we tell the Maronites that we will not attend this conference and we will not allow our representatives to attend, because those who ruined Lebanon have no right to be the decisionmakers. We say it frankly that whoever attends the Islamic-Christian conference will be considered as an Israeli and Maronite agent. [end recording]

PSP leader Walid Junblatt also made a statement at the end of his meeting with the Islamic Grouping.

[Begin recording][Unidentified reporter] What was the nature of your talks with Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban?

[Junblatt] We were honored by the visit to Al-Mukhtarrah of the Islamic Unification Movement leader, who conveyed his condolences on the martyrdom of comrade 'Adil Sayyur. It was an opportunity to discuss the latest developments.

Our views on all issues were identical specifically on the need to confront the Phalangist-Israeli-U.S. scheme with all available means and to reject all proposals that aim at reaching a settlement and at granting the enemies of the homeland all privileges at the expense of the toiling class and nationalists. We pin great hopes on this historic meeting for confronting the nation's domestic and foreign enemies.

[Reporter] What is your comment on Prime Minister Rashid Karami's decision to boycott the Cabinet sessions?

[Junblatt] I hope that this decision will be crucial not only concerning the Sidon events, but also concerning all internal issues. The Sidon events and all other issues — the Lebanese Forces uprising, the Phalangist hegemony, and the privileges — are inseparable.

The fate of the homeland is heading toward the abyss. We hope that Rashid Karami will insist on his stand.

[Reporter] It has been reported that a spiritual Islamic-Christian conference will take place after the Bkirki conference.

[Junblatt] We have nothing to do with such spiritual conferences. We will prevent, or rather, we will not approve the convocation of such conferences. [end recording]

Ja'ja' 'Secretly Visited' Israel for 'Talks'*LD101419 Kuwait KUNA in English 1633 GMT 9 Apr 85*

[Excerpt] Amman, April 9 (KUNA) — Leader of the break away Phalange Party faction Samir Ja'ja' secretly visited Israel for talks with Israeli war minister and senior Army officers, reports from the occupied lands stated Tuesday. The reports indicated tht Ja'ja' held talks with War Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Tel Aviv over Israeli aid to his rebel faction. It added that he later left to Jerusalem for three sessions of talks with Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir. The meetings were attended by Phalange Party representative in Jerusalem Pierre Yazbik. Earlier reports stated that Israeli military supplies have reached Ja'ja's headquarters in Lebanon accompanied by Israeli officers who will work for his rebel movement.

U.S. Diplomat Reportedly 'Secretly Moved' to Iran*NC11026 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0950 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Apr (MENA) — According to the Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS*, William Buckley, political adviser at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut who was kidnapped in March 1984, has been secretly moved from Lebanon to Iran via Syria. It also reports that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad personally intervened with Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to protect Buckley's life and to have him returned to Damascus before he is handed over to U.S. authorities. The newspaper explains that informed U.S. sources have confirmed that William Buckley was indeed moved to Tehran, and that this was the main reason for the official warning sent to Iran through Switzerland. The warning states that the U.S. will strike at Iran if American kidnap victims are endangered or put on trial. The Kuwaiti newspaper bases its story on a special political-military bulletin issued on a monthly basis in London under the name *AL-TAQIRIR*.

The newspaper cites Syrian sources as saying that the kidnapping took place without the knowledge of Syrian authorities. They learned only later that Buckley had been moved to the Iranian Embassy in Damascus. He was then smuggled out of Syria aboard a private plane carrying Mohsen Rafiqdust, commander of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard, who was paying a visit to Syria in November 1984.

2 Reportedly Killed in Beirut by Snipers 10 Apr*NC101541 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] Sniping in downtown Beirut was resumed early this afternoon, forcing the closure of both the Fu'ad Shihab and Sodeco crossings. A number of people caught in the fire were wounded and there were reports of two people being killed. An Army spokesman said that the Fu'ad Shihab crossing was closed at 1420 in the afternoon and that the Sodeco crossing was closed shortly after, following the killing of one person and the wounding of two others at the western edge of the crossing.

The negative developments came shortly after efforts were exerted by the Central Security Committee to calm the situation and to secure the withdrawal of armed men. Members of the

committee toured both areas at noon and were assured that traffic was moving at a normal pace.

Security Situation Deteriorates in Mountain Areas*NC110708 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] Despite the security committee's efforts to bring about a cease-fire, the security situation in the mountains deteriorated again this morning. This came when gunmen in Shimlan and 'Aytat resumed their artillery attacks on military positions in Suq al-Gharb. Fighting involving automatic weapons broke out at 0650 today and soon developed into artillery and rocket duels.

Two shells fell near the presidential palace at 0800 today. This was preceded by sporadic shelling of Army positions in Al-Qammatiyah. A position held by the disengagement forces at the (Bmikka)-Al-Qammatiyah crossroads was also hit. The situation remains tense along combat lines in the mountains. There are fears that the situation will worsen, now that Junblatt's gunmen have been placed on alert.

Yesterday's shelling of military positions and villages in northern and southern Al-Matn left two soldiers dead and six others wounded. After a period of relative calm, two shells fell on Dahr al-Wahsh early this morning.

Israeli Army Evacuates Al-Nabatiyah Region*NC110957 Paris AFP in English 0943 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, April 11 (AFP) — The Israeli Army today evacuated the region of Al-Nabatiyah, in south Lebanon, local correspondents reported quoting police. Israeli helicopters earlier today dropped leaflets signed by the military commander of northern Israel, General Ori Or, which told the local inhabitants that Israeli troops were leaving. The tracts asked the Lebanese to "agree to live in peace with Israel" without carrying out "hostile acts" against the Israeli Army.

The pullout is the second part of a phased withdrawal from south Lebanon. The first phase was completed February 16.

Dayr al-Zahrani, Habbush Evacuated*NC111044 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] The occupation forces are continuing their withdrawal from positions in several parts of southern Lebanon. They have pulled out of Dayr al-Zahrani, Habbush, and Al-Nabatiyah — in addition to the Regie Building, where they are still dismantling some of their installations.

Five trucks were seen leaving the area near the building at 1045. Israeli helicopters dropped leaflets signed by General Ori Or over Al-Nabatiyah and a number of southern villages. The leaflets say that the Israeli Army is carrying out another stage of its decision to pull back to the international border.

Israelis Suffer 'Heavy' Losses in Rocket Attack

NC110740 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic
0530 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] The national and Islamic resistance forces won't let the enemy catch his breath and before he could recover from the Thana' Muhaybili suicide operation, resistance fighters attacked an enemy position south of the Al-Qasimiyah River, in the Mazra'at al-Baqar area yesterday. The position was reportedly hit by rockets. A 30-minute clash ensued between resistance fighters and soldiers manning the position. The enemy suffered heavy human and material losses in the battle. Our correspondent in the area reports that several ambulances rushed to the scene to evacuate the casualties. The number of casualties could not be determined due to strict security measures and the enemy soldiers' hysterical behavior after the attack. According to our correspondent, this was the first time that resistance fighters shelled an enemy position with such intensity. At least 40 mortar and antitank rounds were fired at the enemy position.

Three enemy vehicles were destroyed on the approach to Haruf during an attack on a military assembly point. The attackers used rockets and automatic weapons. Our correspondent could not determine the number of casualties in light of the search and seizure operation launched by the enemy. However, he estimates that more than three soldiers were either killed or wounded.

2 Positions 'Accurately Hit'

NC111003 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT
11 Apr 85

[Text] We have just learned that the Martyr Muhammad Sa'd group attacked two Israeli positions at 0515 today. The first target was (Tallat al-Jubaylat) near the Jubb Jannin-Ghazza Triangle in western Al-Biq. The second attack was directed at the Jannin-Ghazza crossing. Both positions were accurately hit. Immediately afterward, the occupation forces fired wildly, hitting the home of Muhammad al-Ghandur, which lies between Ghazza and Kamid al-Lawz.

Al-Asad Addresses Cabinet on Economic Situation

JN101935 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the deputy prime ministers, and the ministers took the constitutional oath before President Hafiz al-Asad at 1230 today, on the occasion of the formation of the new cabinet.

The president met with the cabinet members at the conference hall in the Presidential Palace to give them his instructions and to review the internal, Arab, and foreign situation, as well as Syria's stand toward the important issues. The president expressed his complete confidence that Syria can achieve many things, and can provide all the needs for its political line, from which it has not deviated and will not deviate in the future. This is because it is the line which expresses the interests and aspirations of the Arab masses both inside and outside our country.

He said: If we are facing problems — perhaps they are many and varied — we can overcome them, proceeding from our conviction that men can do any difficult thing. In fact, men can do impossible things if they have will and determination. The president added: If we go back to past years and compare what we were then with what we are now in many fields, we will be assured of the soundness of this fact. The president asserted the need for the work to progress better in the next stage than in the previous stage, and for the work itself to have a greater impact, because we can do better than what we are now doing.

The president said: We have economic problems and difficulties which we feel as citizens and consumers. These problems are the result of failures at various levels. However, Syria has great potential, and we will be able to solve these problems and overcome these difficulties. We all know that Syria has a large agricultural potential for its population. We need concentrated efforts in order to exploit agricultural lands and achieve high yields.

The president talked about industrial prospects. He said: We established many industries throughout the past years, but we still need many other industries, particularly those which will provide consumer products. We should take advantage of all of our skills in the industries which we established. The president called for exploiting and using all Syria's resources to achieve independence in various fields. He stressed the need to fully benefit from the available machinery, so that the machinery's production will be similar to world production standards.

The president called for taking to task any dereliction of duty. The president stressed the need to fight squandering and to save public expenditures, and called on everyone to shoulder their full responsibilities. He said: In a country with a socialist trend, every document and signature should be viewed in light of how they relate to public interests, and approving or rejecting them should be based on this.

Damascus Carries Interview With Car-Bomb Driver

JN101956 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] The Lebanese national resistance has taught the Zionist occupation forces a new lesson in heroism and sacrifice. In a suicidal operation, a 16-year-old Lebanese girl rammed an enemy military convoy with her booby-trapped car, causing about 50 enemy casualties and destroying several vehicles.

A communique issued by the Lebanese National Resistance Front says that a Peugeot 504 carrying 200 kg of TNT rammed into an enemy convoy which was withdrawing from Al-Barud Mountain on the Badir-Jazzin road at 1000 yesterday, Tuesday. The car was driven by a Lebanese girl called Thana' Muhaybili, from the occupied Al-Zahrani District. The Zionist enemy admitted the incident, but as usual played down its losses. The enemy simply said that two of its officers were killed, and two others were wounded. After this daring operation by Thana' Muhaybili, the bride of the south, the occupation forces blocked all roads leading to the region. At the same time, ambulances rushed to the scene of the incident. Yesterday, Lebanese television screened the following interview that was conducted with the heroic martyr, Thana' Muhaybili, before she carried out her heroic operation.

[Begin recording] [Thana' Muhaybili] I am martyr Thana' Muhaybili. I am 18 years old [as heard], and from the south. I am from southern Lebanon — the suppressed, occupied south, but the resisting, uprising south. The south is carrying out all forms of national resistance. I am from the south of Shaykh (Raban), the south of Shaykh Jalal [word indistinct] Al-Halabi, the south of 'Abdallah al-Jabiri, the south of Hasan Darwish, the south of [name indistinct] Al-Qurbisli, the south of Bilal Fahs, and last but not least the south of hero martyr Rushdi al-Sayigh.

[Unidentified interviewer] Why did you decide to become a martyr?

[Muhaybili] I am not the only who made this decision. I am one of a group that decided to die and sacrifice for the sake of liberating our people and territory. When I felt the tragedy of my people under occupation — the coercion; the injustice; the killing of children, women, and old people; and the threats against my people — we decided to carry out suicidal operations.

[Interviewer] What is your feeling and wish while you are proceeding to carry out this suicidal operation?

[Muhaybili] I feel very satisfied that I am going to carry out this operation, which I have chosen to do. I am performing my duty toward my land and people. I hope and ask all the young women and men of my country to immediately join the ranks of the national resistance, because it is the only one that can expel the enemy from our land.

[Interviewer] An what about your wish?

[Muhaybili] I hope that my operation will be successful, so that I can kill as many enemy soldiers as possible. I hope that my spirit will embrace the spirits of the martyrs who have preceded me so

that they can reunite and explode like a thunderbolt on the heads of the enemy soldiers.

[Interviewer] What message would you like to address [words indistinct].

[Muhaybili] My greetings to the leadership, to all the strugglers in the National Resistance Front, and to all strugglers in my nation, headed by the leader of the liberation and steadfastness march, Lieutenant General Hafiz al-Asad. My greetings to all my family and relatives. I ask you to continue the march of

sacrifice until the liberation of all of our land and people. I ask my mother's pardon, as I have left without saying goodbye to her. Mother, you have taught me to love, sacrifice, and respect. Here I am loving my country, sacrificing my life, and respecting the people of the south and their land. Father, I have left you a written message. Do not feel sad. Never mourn me. On the contrary, sing and dance on my death [words indistinct]. Father, I again ask you to sing and dance, because my blood is cleansing the land of the south of the Jewish filth. This is what I ask of you. [end recording]

LA REPUBBLICA Interviews Defense Minister Rabin
PM101532 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian
 4 Apr 85 p 12

[Alberto Cavallari dispatch: "Army No Longer a Myth"]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv — [Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq] Rabin began by presenting a humble and honest argument. He told me: "The Israeli situation is certainly serious. The economy is in a disastrous state: A frightening national debt has been accumulated. Just think — we now need \$25 billion to pay off our debts, including both capital and interest. So we print money, inflation gallops, and the balance of payments deficit grows. Thus we have chosen the only possible line of attack — that of cutting public spending and reducing the state budget. But in a budget in which military spending accounts for over 25 percent, a cut means a major reduction in military spending. This is certainly not the best time for it. In Lebanon there is not only a troop withdrawal but also a war which costs us several lives every week. We are having to dismantle strategic establishments that cost billions [currency unspecified] and reconstruct them elsewhere. Furthermore, Syria is pursuing its policy of strategic parity with Israel and we have to stand up to it. However, we are obliged to make savings, and this year Israel's military budget is the lowest in its history."

[Cavallari] When do the cuts start?

[Rabin] They have already started. We used to spend \$4.5 billion; now we spend \$4.1 billion. Of this Israel provides \$2.5 billion, while the United States loans us \$1.6 billion. But it is a loan only in a manner of speaking. We receive the \$1.6 billion, and this money is used to buy U.S. materiel. The word "gift" is a little ruthless, but since we cannot pay off past debts we certainly cannot take on more. So let us say by all means that one-third of our defense is provided as a gift by the United States.

I am well aware that it is no laughing matter. I am also aware that it will be said that Israel's military independence is compromised if defense occurs within this context. But I cannot make reductions of more than \$400,000. If the deterrent is to be maintained the U.S. gift must be accepted. Be that as it may, I admit that this situation must end as soon as possible. Even the \$400,000 reduction cannot be continued for long.

[Cavallari] How long can it be endured? Where did you make the cuts?

[Rabin] We say the reduction can be endured for a year, maybe 2, if we grit our teeth. I cannot answer your second question.

[Cavallari] Why is this risk acceptable in the short term?

[Rabin] Because the Arabs are presenting us with certain gifts. The overall strategic picture is more favorable than at one time. Egypt poses no problems — at least as long as it observes the peace settlement that has been reached. Jordan seems to be committing itself diplomatically to a phase of dialogue. Iraq has to cope with Iran. Syria remains an imminent danger, but for the present it seems isolated from the Cairo-Amman axis, which at one time extended to Damascus. This political isolation is

prompting it to facilitate terrorism in Lebanon rather than planning a direct attack. At least that is how we see it.

But the context is a favorable one in the short term. The framework could soon change and it must be borne in mind that the U.S. supplies take time — we will have to wait 2-3 years for some things. Defense implies prediction, and a defense which aims to predict what will happen cannot be steadily reduced. Though for the time being the cuts may not affect deterrence, after a year or 2 our deterrent would be threatened. I can therefore well understand how, except in Lebanon's case, the situation would prompt people to relax, to believe that the main problem is an economic one, and to demand certain sacrifices in the defense field — but civilian society cannot demand too many, thus jeopardizing its own survival.

[Cavallari] Does it not seem to you that what we have here is the same old David's triangle? Society wants peace, prosperity, and security. Peace does not come, yet society will not relinquish prosperity, so the savings start in the field of security. You say that savings can continue for a year but that beyond that it is necessary to depend on the U.S. gift. But what kind of Israel is a less and less independent Israel with its deterrent in jeopardy?

[Rabin] The model of the triangle is correct. We find ourselves in a particular kind of crisis. People want prosperity and security, and the problem is how to achieve a certain balance between the two apparently irreconcilable demands. This is precisely the political problem that we are tackling now. Will we succeed? Will we fail? The important thing is to try. At the same time it is important to make people understand that within a more relaxed strategic context a sudden turnabout can be envisaged. We live in the Middle Eastern frame of mind and every rational diagnosis could be eliminated in a day. The story of the scorpion and the frog still applies. The scorpion asks for a ride across the lake. The frog says: If I carry you on my back you will sting me. The scorpion promises not to sting, explaining that that would cause them both to sink, which would be illogical, and persuades the frog, so the crossing begins. But then the scorpion does sting him. The frog shouts: What are you doing? You are being completely illogical. And as they sink together the scorpion replies: What do you expect? This is the Middle East.

[Cavallari] Do you believe that Egypt could play the scorpion?

[Rabin] You said it. With Egypt we have a good peace treaty, established borders, and normalized relations. Of course Cairo has not yet sent us an ambassador: We find it difficult to see why. Every day there is a new excuse for not sending one. Leaving Aesop's fables aside, we must act in any case, in the knowledge that even in an excellent political context only certain military balances remain the basis for a real deterrent. At the moment the military balances show that we are still strong and still able to provide a deterrent. But they are changing fast.

Except in the case of Jordan, which has rearmed excellently but whose Army is still too small in view of its 400 km border along the Jordan, the Arab countries around us enjoy excellent strategic health. Egypt has rearmed completely. Syria is working to achieve parity with us. It could soon succeed.

[Cavallari] Does Lebanon greatly affect your vulnerability?

[Rabin] What has happened and is still happening in Lebanon must not lead to erroneous assessments of Israel's military strength. We did not suffer a military crisis in the classic sense. When the real clash between Israel and Syria occurred we came out of it well — dozens of Syrian aircraft were brought down and tanks were destroyed. Our superiority was apparent. When we had to destroy the PLO militarily we achieved this military objective too.

But it is another matter if we say that we were then confronted with the military question of how to deal with terrorism. Shi'ite terrorism was born out of the PLO vacuum. Composite warfare emerged from the chaos in Lebanon. I do not want to issue a verdict on the past; in fact I do not want to talk about it. I only know that every kind of terrorism has its own character, its own dimension, and that fighting the PLO is one thing, fighting the Red Brigades another, and fighting the Shi'ites another again. So let us say that we found ourselves faced with the military problem of how to deal with a special kind of Lebanese terrorism and that we have changed our policy on this. The popular unity government has decided that we must withdraw in three stages. A few days ago we decided to do it faster — to reach the old international border within 8-10 weeks.

Our aim is to restore this border with a security zone adjacent; we are not concerned about a square inch of land more or less. If the Shi'ites, Syrians, and all the rest manage to control their forces and to observe this border, it will be a case of "live and let live." Otherwise we will be forced to respond militarily, with our land, sea, and air forces, and it will be hell for them. So the formula is clear. We will withdraw to the old international border while negotiating a security zone, a strip of land still to be defined. If the security strip is not observed we will respond with all our military strength. I am well aware that there is a problem — the lack of a Lebanese government with which to negotiate. But this is our policy.

We are emerging from an ugly episode. The Army has been subjected to a tough trial. It was not designed for the quagmire of guerrilla warfare and terrorism, where hands inevitably become dirtied in the hard work of dealing with the daily murders. But soon this tough and ugly episode will be over. We will fight as in the old days if the international border is not observed.

Rabin Seeks Additional Money for Lavi Plane

TA101452 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
10 Apr 85 p 2

[Report by Ze'ev Schirf]

[Text] Following deliberations in the defense establishment, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday concluded that the development of the Lavi plane will continue, but on certain conditions: The government will be asked to add a certain sum of money to make the continuation of the development possible, and every effort will be made to find U.S. companies to produce about 50 percent of the plane in the future. The conclusion

reached yesterday will be brought to the Cabinet for discussion in the future. The date for this discussion will apparently be determined after the representatives of Israel Aircraft Industries and the defense establishment conclude the checks made in the United States on incorporating U.S. companies in the production of the plane in the future.

The meeting which was held yesterday was one of a series of deliberations in which representatives of the IDF as well as of the civilian and industrial sections of the defense establishment participated. Some of the IDF officers were firmly opposed to the development and production of the plane.

As for the second condition, finding U.S. participants for the production of the Lavi, it seems this stands a good chance since these companies will be paid some of the U.S. aid funds granted to Israel. The hardest condition is the demand by the defense establishment for the government to provide additional financing for the Lavi project. As may be recalled, it was concluded in 1982 that half of the funds for the development and production of the Lavi will come from the defense budget and the other half from other government budgets, but this agreement was not kept. Some time ago Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said he would raise the Lavi question for another discussion in the Cabinet.

Progressive Member Denies Receiving Fatah Funding

JN102002 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT
10 Apr 85

[Interview with Knesset member Muhammad Mi'ari on the "With the Events" program by radio correspondent Nayif Khuri; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text][Khuri] Knesset member Muhammad Mi'ari. Reports say that your list [Progressive List for Peace] receives financial aid from Fatah. What is your comment?

[Mi'ari] I believe that publishing this fabricated news is prompted by clear political and party goals. Needless to say, this news and these reports are absolutely baseless. We view these reports as a continuation of the political and party campaign that some rightist circles have launched since the list was established. We are surprised that such baseless accusations are spreading in other circles.

[Khuri] It seems that you deny the existence of links to Fatah and of financial aid from it. Was there such aid in the past?

[Mi'ari] We have never taken and will never take such aid. We are a list and an Israeli movement that practices its political activity on behalf of the votes we won in the elections under Israeli laws. We support our political line that the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people, and that Israel and the Israeli Government should hold negotiations with the PLO if they want a just peace. This is a political position, and it has nothing to do with such financial aid. Whoever wants to hold a dialogue with us on this principle will be welcome. Spreading such rumors and making such attempts to cast doubt on the list regarding financial affairs are considered an evil intent against the List and its political activities and line.

[Khuri] Regarding the money that belongs to your list, [words indistinct]

[Mi'ari] Like any other party, our budget and our financial situation are open to auditing. We have submitted a clear financial report to the state controller, who endorsed the financial report. I can say that he also praised our financial situation as the best organized one among the other parties. Every piaster in our very small budget came from local donations. During the election campaign, we got some money from some organizations in France, Britain, and Switzerland. The sources of this money are well known, and the state controller has acquainted himself with them.

ASL General Lahd Wants To Leave Troops in Jazzin

TA101044 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew

10 Apr 85 p 1

[Report by Ze'ev Schiff]

[Text] The demand posed by General Antoine Lahd, the commander of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL], that units of his army be allowed to remain in the town of Jazzin, several dozen km north of the security zone, will be raised shortly in the Cabinet. Israeli military observers believe that Gen Lahd will have a hard time holding Jazzin, and that he might get entangled in the place, consequently entangling the IDF as well.

Gen Lahd was given indirect authorization to leave his forces in Jazzin. In reply to his appeal, he was told that if he can carry out his intention, he may do so, but at his own responsibility. This sparked criticism by several Cabinet members, and a debate on the issue will apparently be held in one of the upcoming Cabinet sessions. The military observers say it is doubtful whether Lahd will be able to militarily maintain the link between the security zone and Jazzin, and there is a danger that he will get entangled in battles and eventually demand Israel's help in this struggle.

Re'uven Pedatzur, the HA'ARETZ military correspondent, reports that pro-'Arafat Palestinian terrorists have recently entered the areas evacuated by the IDF in southern Lebanon. According to the assessment of top IDF sources, the areas to be evacuated by the IDF in the eastern sector will be occupied by Palestinian terrorists belonging to Abu Musa's [Sa'id Musa Muragha] faction.

No IDF Support

TA110606 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT
11 Apr 85

[Text] Israeli political elements made it clear to General Antoine Lahd [the leader of the army of southern Lebanon] that Israel will not support his plan to maintain a territorial corridor between Marj 'Uyun and Jazzin. It was made clear to Gen Lahd that the IDF will not intervene should the southern forces find themselves in trouble in this region. At the same time our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that Gen Lahd has not withdrawn his plan to continue to maintain contact with his units in Jazzin.

A great deal of tension prevails in the Druze villages in the eastern sector in Lebanon as the evacuation approaches, because the demarcation of the northern line of the security zone has not yet been specified. There have recently been incidents between pro-Syrian Druze and the Druze who want to maintain contacts with Israel. Incitement against the army of the southern Lebanon [ASL] has been stirred up in Hasbaya, Mimas, and 'Ayn Qinya, and security elements have expelled some of the instigators from the region. The condition in the Druze villages in Lebanon has caused a great deal of concern among their Israeli brethren. The security elements have made it clear to them that in the event of any activity against the IDF and the ASL, the reaction will be decisive. Nevertheless, the security elements emphasized that the tendency is toward helping the Druze organize local forces linked to the IDF and the ASL.

Rabin Says IDF Relinquished Link With Jazzin

TA111130 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT
11 Apr 85

[Text] The defense minister has told our correspondent that the IDF will no longer deal with the links between the Lebanese sects and will no longer try to maintain a link with Jazzin. He expressed doubts as to whether Syrian forces would enter the area after the evacuation because, in so doing, they would be deviating from their lines of deployment. Yitzhaq Rabin said he hoped that the area would be calm after the deployment, but he warned against any attempt to attack Israel, adding that any such attempt would be answered in full force and the IDF would take graver steps than those it has taken the past.

Reportage on IDF Evacuation of Al-Nabatiyah

Shi'ites Leave Fearing Riots

TA101718 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT
10 Apr 85

[Text] Thousands of Shi'ites have left Al-Nabatiyah in the past few days for fear that bloody riots might break out in the city following the upcoming IDF withdrawal. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that IDF liaison officers are holding contacts with local figures in Al-Nabatiyah and surrounding villages to ensure an orderly withdrawal.

Shi'ite Flight Denied

TA111115 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
11 Apr 85 p 2

[Report by Yehuda Tzur]

[Excerpt] Senior elements in southern Lebanon yesterday vigorously denied reports published by the media saying that thousands of Shi'ite inhabitants of Al-Nabatiyah were leaving the town in preparation for the IDF evacuation of it in the near future. The senior military sources told our correspondent that there was no truth in the report and the town continues to function normally. The shops are open, the residents are occupied with their daily lives, and absolutely no atmosphere of flight can

be felt. The military elements added that leaving their homes and emigrating to a new place constitutes one of the most serious problems facing the inhabitants. Therefore it does not seem that many inhabitants would leave the town without any good reason when, in fact, at the moment there is no calm area throughout southern Lebanon, other than that under IDF control, and certainly none in Beirut or Sidon.

Region Evacuated 11 April

TA111112 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT
11 Apr 85

[Text] Today the IDF evacuated the Al-Nabatiyah region, in accordance with the Cabinet decision. The IDF spokesman has announced that the evacuation of troops from Lebanon will continue according to plan. The transfer of the Ansar detainees to Israel about a week ago and the camp's disbandment made it possible to evacuate the area, in which there are hostile inhabitants, and decrease the area under IDF control in Lebanon. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that several villages west of Al-Nabatiyah, including Al-Duwayr, Ansar, Al-Kharub, and Al-Zrariyah, were also evacuated. The IDF is now deployed along the new line on the Al-Litani River in the south and the strip west of the Galilee panhandle.

Rabin Interviewed on Evacuation

TA111147 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1115 GMT
11 Apr 85

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal in southern Lebanon on 11 April — recorded]

[Text][Tal] Defense Minister Rabin says that from now on the IDF will engage only in defending the northern border — nothing else.

[Rabin] We have decided to concentrate on one thing — guarding our northern border, and the settlements and residents there. The entire issue of the problem of the Christians or Druze or other communities is a Lebanese one.

We will try to maintain contacts with the various Lebanese communities, but with a clear limit — that being that all contacts with all communities will not, under any circumstances, call for IDF military action, whether to maintain contacts or to come to their aid or anything else.

[Tal] How do you foresee events here, in the area being evacuated by the IDF, a day, a week, or more after the evacuation?

[Rabin] I am distinguishing between hopes and what we should actually be prepared for. I would very much hope that the fact that we are evacuating the area will satisfy those Shi'ites who claim that the thrust of the anti-IDF war was a result of our presence in Lebanon. However, this is only a hope. What should we be prepared for? We should be prepared for continued attempts to attack us and answers should be found to the terrorist acts.

[Tal] If this region again becomes a terrorist base, if the terrorists begin to act against the IDF forces now, when they are not far from here, and later, when they are deployed along the international border, what should the reaction be? Will Israel allow this?

[Rabin] Once we deploy along the international border and set up the security zone, any attempt to hit Israeli territory, if it is carried out, will be answered in full force. In such a case we will no longer be talking about defending the IDF soldiers in Lebanon, but about defending the State of Israel, its settlements and residents, and in regard to this we will adopt strict measures, much stricter than we have adopted to date.

Lebanese Warned on Collaboration

TA111119 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT
11 Apr 85

[Text] This morning an IDF helicopter scattered leaflets over the villages that have been evacuated [in southern Lebanon]. The inhabitants were called upon not to collaborate with terrorists. Israel, the leaflets said, is warning those who mistakenly think that it will hesitate to take grave steps. Officers in the sector have told our correspondent that they expect inhabitants to return to the area after today's evacuation and there may be attempts to attack the IDF and even the northern settlements.

New Interim Line Formed

TA111319 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT
11 Apr 85

[Text] The IDF has completed its redeployment along the new line in southern Lebanon, after having evacuated from the Al-Nabatiyah region today. The units will remain stationed along that line until the entire Lebanon evacuation is completed. The new IDF line will pass east of the villages of Yuhmur, Tibnit, Al-Nabatiyah, and Kafr Rumman, from which it will continue through the Akhdar Bridge. The villages of 'Arab Salim, Jarju', and Jab'a will not be included in the area controlled by the IDF. All in all, the IDF evacuated from some 30 villages — some of which were considered centers for Shi'ite organization in southern Lebanon.

Senior officers serving in that front have told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that the new interim line is superior to the old one, because it is based on a natural barrier — the Al-Litani River — and on points that are strategically high.

Shi'ites Reject Offer of Control of S. Lebanon

TA111025 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Apr 85 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Excerpt] Leaders of moderate Shi'ite organizations have rejected Israel's proposal to arrive at an arrangement which would allow them to receive control over the areas of southern Lebanon to be evacuated by Israel, in exchange for a guarantee that they will prevent attacks against Israel. The proposal was passed on by national and private elements. However, the answer

received was that the Shi'ite leaders are not interested in talking to Israel as long as there are IDF soldiers in Lebanon.

Security Sources on Nature of Security Zone

TA101394 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT
10 Apr 85

[Text] Security sources say there is a danger that the Shi'ite threat will worsen following the IDF withdrawal to the international border. The sources have concluded that the Syrians are interested in increasing terrorism through the Shi'ites and Palestinians. The security sources added that the IDF will deploy along the line demarcating the security zone during May, and they believe that the IDF will be out of Lebanon by the date marking the 3d anniversary of the 6th June war. With me in our studio is our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel:

The security zone in southern Lebanon does not prevent katyusha attacks and cannot absolutely prevent infiltrations. This was stated today by security sources. They added that there is a danger that the threat of terrorism will increase even after the IDF withdrawal. This possibility is based on the assessment that the Syrians are interested in increasing the attacks, without being directly involved themselves, and that the PLO — including the so-called moderate part of it — has not abandoned the path of terrorism, and that perhaps even the contrary is true.

The great unknown is the Shi'ites. It is reasonable to assume that they will not allow the PLO to take control over the Shi'ite areas in southern Lebanon, as in West Beirut — this period is over for good. The sources reported today on a squad of Palestinian terrorists that crossed the Al-Litani River a few weeks ago and reached a Shi'ite village, where its members were disarmed and sent respectfully northward. However, Shi'ite-Palestinian cooperation against Israel is not inconceivable, and according to the sources, this is the most dangerous possibility. As for the timetable: During May the IDF will deploy along the lines of the security zone; the sources believe that the IDF will be out of Lebanon by 6 June, the anniversary of the beginning of the war in Lebanon. Obviously things depend on the government's decision, but the sources foresee no difficulties even from the direction of the Likud ministers.

What form will the security zone take? The main principle is to recruit local villagers of their own free will. Civilian guards will be operating in southern Lebanon alongside approximately 1,200 army of southern Lebanon [ASL] soldiers, who will also be deployed in accordance to the regional origins of the soldiers. Civilian guards are already operating very successfully in almost 20 Shi'ite villages. The IDF will return to the international border, but it preserves the right to act by means of artillery, air attacks, patrols, or any other way it chooses. The security sources said that Israel will not hesitate to use any measure: "We will shell civilian areas if it is necessary. If they do not allow us to live, we will not allow them to live."

As for the Syrians, the assessment is that Damascus currently feels isolated, in view of the new Cairo-Baghdad-Amman-'Arafat axis. The Syrians may send small forces southward in order to prove that the war has not changed their deployment in

Lebanon. However, it is extremely doubtful that they will send divisions, according to the sources. Israel is willing to talk with all the factors in Lebanon, but it will not agree to involve the IDF in Lebanese politics again. Israel has offered and continues to offer the Shi'ites southern Lebanon without the ASL and without a security zone, if they maintain calm. So far the Shi'ite leaders have not replied to this offer. Israel is also willing to resume the Al-Naqrurah talks.

The security sources were also asked today about the effects of the service in Lebanon on IDF soldiers. They answered: The behavior of the soldiers is morally irreproachable, and is unparalleled in other armies. It appears that the percentage of those reporting to reserve duty in Lebanon is on the increase. The war in Lebanon is terrible, but the IDF will recover after it withdraws. This is a certainty.

Maj Gen Or Comments on Suicide Car-Bomb Attack

TA101134 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
10 Apr 85 pp 1, 11

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Excerpts] The young Shi'ite kamikaze fighter who operated the car bomb yesterday at the Batir al-Shuf pass north of Jazzin, in which two IDF soldiers were killed and another two wounded, came from the Druze-controlled area. The alertness of the IDF soldiers at the roadblock prevented the car from moving southward and causing a greater disaster. The names of the dead soldiers are: Lieutenant Yiftah Pashhur and (Reserves) Corporal Mendel Melamed.

Ori Or, the commander of the Northern Command, said in an interview to MA'ARIV last night that the incident is not an additional dimension in the anti-Israeli Shi'ite terror fighting, but part of ongoing terrorist activity in the framework of which the Shi'ite extremists have adopted all measures, including car bombs, to strike at us. "From this point of view, there is no difference between a male and female kamikaze fighter," Major General Or said.

Maj Gen Or told MA'ARIV that the fact that the soldiers stopped the car and prevented the female terrorist from continuing on her way barred her from carrying out her original plan and, left with no choice, she activated the bombing mechanism on the spot.

MA'ARIV: Is this the first time the IDF has encountered this phenomenon of a female Shi'ite kamikaze fighter?

Maj Gen Or: There were reports of another such case in the past. I am referring to the explosion of the Safari bus near Metulla, in which 12 soldiers were killed. After that incident it was said that the car bomb was driven by a female terrorist, but to this day we do not know whether a man or a woman was involved in that incident. We have now discovered that the Shi'ites are also using women for kamikaze missions.

MA'ARIV: This is the seventh such case against ID soldiers in Lebanon. Does the IDF have an answer to this?

Maj Gen Or: This is a phenomenon which is hard to fight. However, IDF activity in the Shi'ite villages in Lebanon foiled five attempts to activate car bombs against our forces. The cars were seized in all these incidents and, in some, the people who were going to operate them were also caught.

The commander of the Northern Command is looking into the circumstances of the disaster and will report the findings to the defense minister. An initial study indicated that the IDF soldiers at the roadblock did not strictly adhere to regulations. Another aspect which will be examined is why the soldiers at the roadblock did not open fire on the car, contrary to the orders which call for opening fire on vehicles occupied by only one person. Maj Gen Or yesterday instructed the closure of the Batir al-Shuf and Al-Qasimiyah passes.

Saudi Arms Reported Reaching Terrorists in Lebanon

TA101059 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
10 Apr 85 p 13

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Text] Saudi Arabia is supplying arms to the terrorist organizations. This fact was recently discovered in an encounter between an IDF force and a terrorist squad in the eastern sector of Lebanon. An IDF force which was patrolling the area west of Al-Qir'awn Lake encountered a terrorist squad which entered the IDF-controlled area from the Syrian-controlled zone. There were exchanges of fire between the IDF force and the terrorist squad, in the wake of which the terrorists escaped northward, leaving their equipment and arms behind. The equipment and arms discovered in the place included a katyusha launcher and two 107mm katyushas, ammunition, binoculars, and maps, some of which was found in two knapsacks which carried the stamp of the Saudi Army.

Military elements emphasize that this fact proves the rumors which have been circulating for a long time that Saudi Arabia is actively aiding the terrorist organizations. Saudi Arabia, however, in its contacts with Western countries on the purchase of arms and military equipment, has emphasized that it is not actively involved in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Saudi Arabia claims it extends moral and financial aid to the terrorists, but not military equipment.

Deir Yasin Massacre Marked in Jerusalem, West Bank

TA101433 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
10 Apr 85 p 8

[Report by Gad Li'or and Roni Shaqed]

[Text] The 37th anniversary of the Deir Yasin massacre was marked yesterday with a series of grave disturbances in East Jerusalem and especially near the refugee camps in the Ramallah area where the Deir Yasin refugees live today.

A. Tires were set on fire in the Shu'fat refugee camp.

B. Tires were set on fire on the main road to 'Anata.

C. In the Qiryat Arye Quarter in Jerusalem, near the police academy on Ammunition Hill, youths blocked the road with rocks and stoned Israeli vehicles.

D. Jewish pedestrians were attacked in the Khan al-Zayt Market in the Old City.

E. Tempers flared several times near Herod's Gate in the Old City, and Israeli vehicles as well as pedestrians were attacked with stones, bottles, and other objects.

F. Stones were thrown at Jews and tourists on Shalshet street in the Old City.

G. Demonstrations by female students in the Al-Am'ari refugee camp near Ramallah and at the teachers college in Al-Birah were dispersed with tear gas. A No 70 bus from Jerusalem to Bet El which was passing the Al-Am'ari refugee camp was attacked with stones, its front windshield was smashed and one of the passengers slightly injured.

Nobody else was hurt in the incidents but damages were caused to vehicles. Seven of the rioters were detained. Numerous police and border police officers continued to patrol the centers of disturbances last night. The heightened alert in East Jerusalem will continue in the coming days since tens of thousands of pilgrims visit the Old City and the Western Wall area on Passover.

W. Bank Manifesto Opposes Husayn-'Arafat Agreement

TA101221 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
10 Apr 85

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] A manifesto is currently being distributed by the Left in the West Bank, expressing opposition to the Husayn-'Arafat agreement. The signatures of left-wing notables, led by deposed Nablus Mayor Bassam al-Shak'ah, appear on the manifesto. It is also being signed by Palestinian communists and deposed mayors, such as Ibrahim al-Tawil from Al-Birah and Wahid Hamdallah from 'Anabta. The signatures of several personages known as supporters of both Jordan and the PLO also appear on the manifesto, but they claim their signatures were forged.

Contacts on Appointing Mayors in W. Bank Renewed

TA101344 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
10 Apr 85 p 3

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] The military authorities are renewing contacts over the appointment of new mayors in the West Bank in the wake of the establishment of a new government in Jordan. Our correspondent has learned from sources in Hebron that talks have already taken place between the civilian governor there and a well-known physician who is a relative of the deposed mayor, but what was actually said is not known. Our correspondent has also learned that the military authorities are again going to raise the proposal

[of replacing the Israeli governors with Arab mayors] before pro-Jordanian personages, or those who support the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, in Ramallah, Al-Birah, and Nabulus. The assessment in the defense establishment is that following Karim Khalaf's death there is a chance to promote the matter of appointing Arab mayors in Ramallah and Al-Birah.

POST Favors Participation in 'Star Wars' Research

TA110921 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
11 Apr 85 p 9

[Commentary by Hirsh Goodman: "Star Wars Opportunity"]

[Text] "Star Wars," as President Ronald Reagan's new strategic defence plan has been dubbed by some unkind pundit, may prove to be totally impractical in the long run. That is not the point. What is the point — at least where this country is concerned — is that the U.S. administration intends to spend \$26 billion pursuing the dream of a defensive weapon that will limit the chances of a nuclear holocaust, and Israel has been asked to be part of that effort. It is an effort that will engage some of the best minds in the world in probing the outer limits of scientific knowledge and taking applied science to its furthest horizons.

Israel has to be part of that effort, for Israel's industrial future and ultimate security depend on the ability to remain in the forefront of developing technology. No matter how small the slice of the Star Wars cake that will eventually be allocated to Israel, it will mean a life-giving accretion to the almost non-existent research funds of the Israeli scientific community. It will mean jobs for exactly the type of people we need to keep in this country. It will mean an exchange of knowledge and information with top scientists in the field.

It will mean that if this project is successful, Israel will be in on the ground floor of a system that could make it unnecessary to bomb the next Iraqi reactor.

President Reagan's intention is to build a defensive system in space that would aim to "kill" incoming enemy nuclear missiles before they could reach their targets, negating the need for a counter-strike. Theoretically, this would reduce the possibility of nuclear war at this stage, for it would render the atomic weapons in the hands of the aggressor useless while still in their silos.

As a result the element of deterrence that has miraculously kept the world from destruction during the second half of the 20th century, but has prevented neither nuclear proliferation nor the multiplication of nuclear warheads, will undergo a basic re-thinking. And just as well. There are already enough active warheads to blow up this planet several times over, leaving not a single particle in existence.

Pakistan now has nuclear potential. India has it. Libya, Egypt and Saudi Arabia are pursuing nuclear knowledge. The threatened whites in South Africa are said to have it. Europe is on its way to becoming a virtual forest of tactical nuclear

weaponry — weapons that could conceivably be used, as opposed to the strategic varieties, in submarines and under the wings of aircraft patrolling the skies.

Israel's geography and demography dictate, in my opinion, that Israel does not have an effective nuclear option based on deterrence. A random nuclear strike against Israel would be catastrophic; Israel's response — if it has one — on the other hand, could only be relative. Israel would pay a total price, the aggressor a bearable one. Hence the incentive for the other side to use its weapons. It is crucial, therefore, for Israel to be involved in the development of an alternative strategy, no matter how improbably its ultimate application may be.

The only other alternative is to use force to prevent the other side from attaining a nuclear capability, as Menahem Begin decided to do in the case of the Iraqi reactor. Such a strategy is myopic at best, given that the weapons we wish to destroy, or even the potential means of making them, may be supplied by our closest ally, making pre-emption politically impossible.

Critics of the Star Wars programme are against space being turned into a celestial battlefield. Space is one segment of the universe that should be free of potential war; a sort of last refuge of sanity. But it already is a battlefield, and has been so for some years. There are hundreds of spy and communications satellites in orbit, "killer satellite" programmes to destroy the other sides' ability to communicate and function in war.

Advance work has been proceeding on satellite destroyers for years — probably before Reagan ever conceived (or brought) the idea of a celestial defence system that would destroy weapons instead of destroying people. Is Star Wars any more insane than the idea of a neutron bomb that would only kill people and leave buildings intact, as conceived by Jimmy Carter, the "human rights" president? After all, what is the sense of sanitary space, if there is no earth to enjoy it.

Reagan, through Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger in late March, approached 18 countries to take part in research and development of the initial stages of the programme. Israel was among them. This in itself shows how highly the Americans regard Israel's current technological and scientific capability. There was another implication: that America considers Israel a long-term, stable ally which can be trusted to participate in its most secret and most serious defence effort.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin was right both in thanking the U.S. for the request, and in saying that he would recommend a positive response. Inherent in Star Wars participation, no matter how unrealistic the proposal may be at this stage, are potentially real answers to this country's economic and defence needs. Israel does not have a credible nuclear option. It cannot keep up with the money being spent on sophisticated conventional weapons by the confrontation states. Its economic situation is living off money from the scientists we rely on to continue providing the qualitative edge that keeps us secure. On all these counts, President Reagan's invitation is one to be grateful for.

ALGERIA

Border Agreement Signed With Mauritania

*LD100240 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT
9 Apr 85*

[Excerpt] An agreement has been signed concerning the border between Algeria and Mauritania. A ceremony in which the interior ministers of the two countries participated took place this afternoon.

Mohamed Hadj Yala [Algerian interior minister] described the signing of the documents as a happy occasion, adding that the documents represent a new landmark along the path of already fruitful cooperation between Algeria and Mauritania. In turn, Djibril Ould Abdallah [Mauritanian interior minister] said that border issues should not be an obstacle, and that the signing of the document represented a new landmark in the cooperation between the two countries.

LIBYA

Benin Foreign Minister Holds Talks With Al-Turayki

LD102113 Tripoli JANA in English 1744 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Rajab, 10 April, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison People's Bureau met early today with Aflo Frederic Assogba, foreign minister of the People's Republic of Benin, who is on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to hold talks about supporting the existing co-operation between the two friendly countries.

The meeting focused on means and ways of developing and strengthening these relations and supporting joint ventures. It also confirmed on the importance of pushing ahead bilateral relations to achieve common objectives for economic cooperation and assisting existing companies and projects between the two countries to realize an ideal cooperation in various fields.

The meeting dealt with African and international issues of common interest and latest development of the situation in the Africa Continent and confronting racial regimes and supporting African liberation movements to enable them to face the racial regime in South Africa.

Jamahiriya, Not Egypt, 'True Ally' of Sudan

*LD110420 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 2315 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] There is no doubt that the Sudanese people realized, during the years of struggle against the lackey Numayri and his regime, who their enemies are and who their friends and allies are. There is also no doubt that the Sudanese people have realized that their worst enemy is the traitorous Egyptian regime, which continued to stand by the lackey Numayri until the last moment

and sent Army units to Sudan that in practice provided support for the Numayri regime [words indistinct] the Sudanese masses, trying to force them to submit to military suppression.

The Egyptian regime was the head of the snake, while Numayri was the tail; the Sudanese people, who have clipped the tail, cannot possibly forgive the poisonous bites of the head of the snake, the Egyptian regime. They will not forget that the lackey Numayri had relied on the traitorous Egyptian regime when he was committing his crimes.

The Sudanese people, who took part in the struggle and became martyrs for the cause of Sudanese independence and dignity, will not be moved from their firm principled stance of clashing with the head of the snake, the Egyptian regime, and with reactionary and imperialist forces.

The Sudanese people will not be deceived by the lies so sweetly uttered by the traitor Husni Mubarak, because the murderous head of the snake and ally of the lackey Numayri cannot change overnight into a loyal friend, except to commit the evil which he conceals in his fangs and plots in treacherous ways.

The true ally of the Sudanese people is the one who has stood and is willing to stand alongside them in defense of their independence, dignity, and freedom. The true ally of the Sudanese people is the one who immediately recognized the revolution which toppled the lackey and his regime and who is prepared to bear its historic pan-Arab responsibility to defend the triumph of 6 April, not the one who has embraced Numayri and begun to develop plans to restore a trusteeship over Sudan. Before the triumph of the revolution this enemy was preparing to interfere with Armed Forces, shedding the blood of the Sudanese people in the streets of Khartoum and Omdurman, in order to foil their popular revolution.

The Egyptian regime wants to test the method of [words indistinct] hoping for a chance to contain Sudan and impose a trusteeship on it; but it reserves the decision to intervene with military force in the event it fails to achieve its goal this way. We are certain that the Egyptian regime is doomed to utter failure; and therefore the Egyptian regime, in coordination with the United States and Zionism, could commit a treacherous act against Sudan, relying on the agreements it concluded with the lackey Numayri. But if the Egyptian regime gets involved in such a dirty and treacherous action, it will be hastening the day of its inevitable fall, because military force cannot crush the will of the rebelling people.

The image of Husni Mubarak will remain in the eyes of all the Sudanese people ugly, decayed, and accursed so long as he pursues the same course of treachery and capitulation that the lackey Numayri had pursued through his link with the traitorous Egyptian regime.

The dependency of the lackey Numayri on the Egyptian regime was one of the most important reasons that the Sudanese people rose up and toppled him in a revolution which, when the army joined the masses of the popular revolution on 6 April, destroyed one of the puppets in the Arab homeland.

MOROCCO

Hassan Cables Message to Sudan's Siwar al-Dhahab
LD102307 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT
 10 Apr 85

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II has sent a cable of congratulations to General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council, following his assumption of power in Sudan. Here is the text of the cable:

Your Excellency General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, Khartoum, Sudan: It gives us pleasure to convey to you and to the dear Sudanese people the warmest congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of assuming power in fraternal Sudan.

We have followed with much sympathy the recent events in Sudan. We cannot but express to you our complete satisfaction with the wise and peaceful way in which you took control of the situation, the fact which [words indistinct] reassured us [words indistinct] and among our people. We are confident that [words indistinct] leadership and good reputation inside your country makes your initiative the beginning of a new era in which Sudan and its authentic people will enjoy security, prosperity and reassurance, and happiness.

Morocco, which has special and distinguished ties with Sudan, wishes it continuous security and stability and the successful and triumphal surmounting of the difficulties that lie in its way. Please accept my highest sentiments of friendship, appreciation, and respect.

Done at the Royal Palace in Rabat on Wednesday 14th of Rajab 1405, corresponding to 10 April 1985.

[Signed] King Hassan II, King of the Moroccan Kingdom.

King Interviewed on Mideast, Trade To Europe
AU101539 Rome ANSA in English 1500 GMT 10 April 85

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, April 10 — Two major Italian dailies carried interviews today with Morocco's King Hassan II in which the monarch voiced concern that enlargement of the European Community to include Spain and Portugal will be detrimental to his country's agricultural exports to Europe. The other main topic of the interviews was the situation in the Mideast.

Speaking of the EC enlargement, Hassan told Milan's *CORRIERE DELLA SERA*, "The situation which has developed will be initially damaging to Morocco but in the long term Europe will suffer the greatest damage because it will lose its natural breathing area. It was more difficult in the past to create a six-member community that it will be in the future to enlarge it to 13. While we wait as our regions assert themselves, we will try to be acrobats day by day".

"Why shouldn't Morocco aspire to join the Common Market? The request for membership was not meant as a provocation or challenge. In the beginning, the six founding members of the

European Community made the decision not only for economic motives but also for political reasons based on a common ideal. And we in Morocco have also made a decision inspired by a liberal commitment. And what would Europe be without the Mediterranean, North Africa and the entire African Continent [linked] to it through North Africa?"

Speaking of the Maghreb with Rome's *LA REPUBBLICA*, the Moroccan monarch recalled the tensions between Morocco and Algeria over the Sahara. "If it were not for our current problems — and the Sahara is one of these — fusion of the two Maghreb nations could be achieved at the latest within 3-4 months".

Asked whether Morocco signed a union treaty with Libya last year "which alarmed the Reagan administration", Hassan replied, "the treaty is not directed against any country in the region but was reached with the exclusive interest of the nation. As for the United States, we must not forget that it considered the move untimely because an election campaign was under way in their country. But Morocco decides its own foreign policy along its own schedule, not that of its friends".

In reference to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi, the sovereign told *LA REPUBBLICA*, "We are more than satisfied with union with Tripoli. Our Libyan friends agree; and as for terrorism, is it possible to believe that Al-Qadhafi is always involved? If it were so, he would be the most powerful man (in) the world". The monarch added that "the truth is that Al-Qadhafi must be taken in a certain way... on the psychological level. He's made a certain way. I don't mean to say that I justify his actions, just that I understand them. Even Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti (who has just completed a two-day visit to Morocco) is opposed to demonizing the Libyan leader."

"Good relations with Tripoli is a constant of Italian diplomacy, particularly active in the Middle East and Mediterranean. Italy has many interests in Libya and this would help Italy play a moderating role. The Rome government's policy is certainly wise, in line with its history. I only wish it were more concrete". Speaking of the Middle East with *CORRIERE DELLA SERA* the Moroccan king said that the real problem in the area is not Lebanon but the Arab-Israeli conflict. "I have always recommended the Americans not to get stuck in Lebanon without first dealing with the main problem: If you begin from Lebanon you'll never get anywhere".

Speaking of the new Sudanese Government, following last week's coup d'etat, Hassan II said he believes the new leader in Khartoum, 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dahab, will follow the foreign policy of his ousted predecessor Ja'far Numayri.

Italian Foreign Minister Concludes Visit, Departs
LD102123 Rabat MAP in French 1530 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Marrakech, 10 Apr (MAP) — Mr Giulio Andreotti, the Italian minister of foreign affairs, left Marrakech today for Rome, at the end of an official 2-day visit to Morocco. The Italian foreign minister was seen off by Mr Abdellatif Filali, the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs and information.

SUDAN

Siwar al-Dhahab Holds Press Conference

EA102102 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1525 GMT
10 Apr 85

[Press conference granted by General 'Abd al Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces and chairman of the Transitional Military Council, in his office at the General Command; questioners not identified; date not given — passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [First announcer] The Democratic Republic of Sudan Radio from Omdurman: We now present to you the press conference held today by General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces and chairman of the Transitional Military Council, in his office at the General Command.

[Second announcer] At the beginning of the conference, his excellency explained the economic situation from which the country is suffering and the dictatorial features that accompanied the defunct era and the (?burial) of humanity. He stated that the people's will was the motive for the people's revolution which (?boiled) and gushed forth to the surface in the form of the demonstrations and (?procession) that appeared on the Sudanese streets and in the large cities, which prompted the People's Armed Forces to side with the people in order to avert in fighting and to spare blood in taking over power and handing it over to the people within a transitional period. His excellency also stated that the situation in the country is now stable with regard to security. He also confirmed the efforts being made and the desire for consolidating national unity and preserving it.

On the economic problems from which Sudan is suffering, his excellency explained future efforts and planning for containing them through the assistance of sisterly and friendly states.

Foreign policy was also among the points that his excellency dealt with in his preamble before the conference. It is characterized by nonalignment, a policy of good neighborliness, noninterference in the internal affairs of other states, and Sudan's support for the Palestinian cause and the liberation struggle in South Africa.

In answer to a question on the new military council and its role during the coming stage and its length, his excellency explained that the new council represents the leadership of the authority at present and the power that represents the nation. About its length, his excellency said that will be decided in the immediate future in discussions with the trade union congregations and parties.

"[Siwar al-Dhahab — in English] The new council as a matter of fact represents the head of the state and legislation (?if that is) necessary. That is to say, it is a power that represents the head of the state and the legislative body for the state. How long will it remain? This remains to be discussed with the new government which is planning to hold consultations with the representatives of the different parties.

[Question — in English] Do you expect that the new government will be formed in a matter of days or weeks or months?

[Siwar al-Dhahab — in English] Well, that depends on the progress of our consultations with these parties, but perhaps I assume if all the parties could agree, then it would take only a few weeks, if not days."

[Announcer] On a question on the present regime's stance toward John Garang and his group, his excellency explained that there is contact with John Garang, through a messenger, to consider the determination of points for a meeting and agreement between the two sides.

"[Siwar al-Dhahab — in English] We have now, we have already sent a messenger in order to meet him and agree with him on a fixed date to meet, in order to talk with him.

[Question — in English] what is your reaction, General, to the broadcast yesterday in which he called on you to resign within 7 days [words indistinct] suspension of operations for that period?

[Siwar al-Dhahab — in English] Yes, indeed, I did hear that and we did not take it very seriously because we think it is really impossible to convene a government in a week's time. Our mission at this moment is to transfer the power to the people in an orderly and democratic manner. And this of course cannot be done in 1 week. It will take some days, of course."

[Announcer] On the proclaimed state of emergency and its length, his excellency stated that its purpose is the protection of Sudan and striving for stability and when this purpose is achieved it will be lifted.

"[Question — in English] General, will the state of emergency continue throughout the transitional period?

[Siwar al-Dhahab — in English] I do not think so. The state of emergency of course has been applied in order just to maintain and stabilize the situation. So long as the situation is stable, then there is no need for this state of emergency to continue.

[Question indistinct]

[Siwar al-Dhahab — in English] Yes, this is one of the priorities which we are now undertaking, the question of how to revive the economy, to combat the food crisis which we are now facing. Perhaps if you listened yesterday to Order No 9 where I have taken the chair of the high commission for combating the desertification and food crisis. [sentence as heard]"

[Announcer] On the future of Sudanese-American relations, his excellency explained that the new policy is represented by the creation of commendable relations with all states and with the friends who stood by Sudan during its economic troubles, particularly drought and food shortages. The United States — here I record a vote of thanks to the U.S. Government for its assistance to Sudan. We, for our part, will strive to cement this relationship.

"[Siwar al-Dhahab — in English [Words indistinct] and the United States, in particular. And I would like to thank the United

Nations and the countries of the United Nations for all the help and assistance they are giving to Sudan. [sentence as heard] And we will continue to see and observe that our relations with all countries are in good and in ... [Siwar al-Dhahab does not complete sentence].

[Question indistinct]

[Siwar al-Dhahab — in English] Of course not. We do not share the idea that we should boycott or perhaps...[Siwar al-Dhahab pauses] What I would like to say is that our friendship with the United States of course will continue to be good and we will observe that."

[Announcer] And in answer to a question on the future of information under the new regime which was (?guided) by democracy, his excellency said:

"[Siwar al-Dhahab] As you know we called for freedom of the press and expression and a democratic atmosphere, so that the citizens (?can) express their opinions, and consequently the atmosphere will be democratic, so that we can achieve an approved formula. Consequently, we will allow anyone to publish any newspaper under the statutes that are observed in the country.

[Question indistinct]

[Siwar al-Dhahab] The change has indeed occurred. We have entrusted some authorities concerned in the new (?regime) with ensuring that the information tendencies at this stage serve the nature of the stage, consequently the old facade is, in reality, not now responsible for information.

[Question indistinct]

[Siwar al-Dhahab] Yes, as long as that serves the national interest."

[Announcer] And on the recently declared measures about the protection of the country, his excellency explained that the sealing off of the borders was for the purpose of protecting Sudan from any danger coming from the land, sea, or air. We have now opened the air space and soon we will open the airport.

"[Siwar al-Dhahab — in English] Well, we had to close our air space in order to make sure that no threats could come by land, sea or air. This [words indistinct] the measure that we have to take in order to secure our situation. And as far as the question of when we are going to open. [sentence as heard] In fact we have already opened the air space and we will open the airport as soon as possible."

[Announcer] At the end of the press conference, Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, recorded a vote of thanks to the representatives of the foreign press.

Further on Press Conference

JN101518 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Apr (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces and chairman of the Transitional Military Council, has announced that the formation of a new cabinet will be announced after consultations are completed. He pointed out that continuing contacts and consultations with representatives of trade and workers unions are being held. This announcement came at the news conference his excellency held in Khartoum this afternoon which was attended by representatives of foreign and local media organs.

His excellency asserted that the situation in the south is normal and stable. He said: We will announce our policy toward the south soon. This will take place with complete consultation with our brothers in that part of the homeland. His excellency announced that ports and airports will be opened in the near future.

Comments on Foreign Policy

JN101534 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1514 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Apr (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces and chairman of the Transitional Military Council, has affirmed that the priorities of the current phase are summed up in: national unity; surmounting economic obstacles, including the problems caused by the drought; and transferring power to the masses.

Addressing a news conference this morning, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab referred to the basic principles of foreign policy specified in the General Command's Communique No 3, saying these principles are neutrality and nonalignment, honoring regional and international pacts and treaties, upholding the policy of good neighborliness, and continuing support for the Palestine question and the liberation movements in southern Africa.

The commander in chief affirmed that short-term plans are preserving and consolidating national unity and finding suitable solutions to the country's economic problems. He said: We are continuing our efforts to curb the effects of drought and desertification in various parts of the country. The commander in chief added: We will continue our contacts with donor states and organizations in order to obtain more assistance and aid for relief work and reconstruction.

MENA: Chairman Outlines Economic, Foreign Policy

NC110949 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0840 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 11 Apr (MENA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, Sudan's commander in chief and head of its Transitional Military Council, told the Egyptian paper *AL-MASARA* that the relations which have linked the two Nile Valley countries from time immemorial will remain strong and firm, as long-standing, deep-rooted relations among nations are unbreakable.

In his first interview with an Egyptian paper, the Sudanese leader addressed Egypt's people and said: Our relations with fraternal Egypt go back to the dawn of civilization along the banks of the Nile. They are relations of blood and kinship. We in the southern part of the valley say to our brothers in the north that we shall spare no effort to promote and consolidate the strong fraternal bonds between us.

In a telephone interview with Samir Rajab, *AL-MASA'* editor in chief, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said: On behalf of the Sudanese people and Armed Forces, I would like to thank the fraternal Egyptian people for being so helpful to the Sudanese. I would also like to confirm that our relations will grow stronger and flourish. We will work hard for the further consolidation of these everlasting relations.

Speaking on the latest developments in Sudan, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab declared: Order has been completely restored throughout Sudan, in both the north and south. The General Federation of Trade Unions has decided to end their political strike. They did so after I met with some of their representatives and told them that the current situation requires closer cooperation to increase production and deal with our economic problems. Gen Siwar al-Dhahab added that workers everywhere are returning to their jobs, and that cables expressing support for the Armed Forces are coming in constantly from home and abroad, and from every sector of the population.

Asked when a new government will be announced, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said: We are still holding consultations on that question. God willing, we will announce the formation of the new government soon.

Asked about the extent of the Trade Union Federation's response to the call to end its political strike, the commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces noted that the unions have answered the call. They have asked their members to return to work, make greater efforts, and increase production. He added that they have actually ended the strike.

Responding to a question on the sort of political and economic action that will be taken once the situation in fraternal Sudan has stabilized, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said: The nature of the current period demands that we place the utmost importance on consolidating national unity, working for cohesion on the home front, and deepening the unity between the people and their Armed Forces. This will allow us to hand over authority to the people, as we promised in our first communique. All this concerns domestic policy.

As for foreign policy, he said, we are trying to confirm our good relations with fraternal states, and to address the lukewarm relations that were formed with certain other fraternal and friendly states during the previous regime.

He also commented on economic policy and declared: We seek concrete solutions to the problems facing Sudan's economy as a result of natural factors and mismanagement. We will give top priority to existing development projects in various parts of the country. We will focus our attention on agricultural projects to meet the shortage of agricultural goods. In this regard, certain

friendly and fraternal states have begun to think as we have and to extend some assistance.

Asked when Sudanese airports and ports will be reopened and why they were closed, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said: The airports and ports were closed for security reasons, and they will be reopened soon, God willing.

Siwar Al-Dhahab Dismisses Central Bank Governor

JN11136 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Apr (SUNA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab issued a decision today dismissing Faruq Ibrahim al-Maqbul from his post as governor of the Central Bank of Sudan.

The decision stipulates that Vice Governor Mahdi al-Fakki shall assume the duties and authorities of governor.

Siwar al-Dhahab Dismisses Khartoum Commissioners

JN111441 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Apr (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces and chairman of the Transitional Military Council, issued Decree No 1 today relieving all of the national capital commissioners of their posts as of 10 April 1985.

The decree stipulated that the director general of every commission assume the authority of the commissioner until further instructions are issued.

Atbara Trade Unions Support 'Masses' Issues'

JN101444 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1414 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Apr (SUNA) — The trade unions delegation in Atbara, in the Northern Region, has asserted its firm commitment to the masses' issues and its solid belief in the need to turn the unions into a security valve for the freedom and independence of the unions' work.

In an interview with SUNA, the delegation reiterated its adherence to returning to democratic life and to handing complete power to the heroic Sudanese people. The delegation announced that it believes in the need to free democratic liberties and liquidate the destructive elements which corrupted the social, political, and economic life in the country.

The delegation talked about the series of strikes the labor movement organized throughout the past years in order to topple the agent May regime. The delegation pointed out that all unions in Atbara were united in the political strike that toppled the May clique. All trade unions and committees participated in the strike which began on 7 March, until the Armed Forces announced that they sided with the people.

Siwar al-Dhahab Receives Al-Turabi 10 Apr*JN111040 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1009 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Apr (SUNA) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces and chairman of the Transitional Military Council, received Dr Hasan 'Abdallah al-Turabi here yesterday.

Dr al-Turabi expressed his congratulations and his confidence in the Armed Forces over the transfer of power to the masses, stressing the pioneering role played by the Armed Forces and their brave stand on the side of the people's will.

At the end of the meeting, he wished continued blessing and progress for Sudan.

Muslim Brothers Group Joins League of Trade Unions*EA111055 Khartoum SUNA in English 0941 GMT 11 Apr 85*

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Apr — A splinter group of the Moslem Brothers led by Sadiq 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Majjid yesterday joined the National League of Trade Unions for rescuing the country, the spokesman of the league said last night.

'Adlan al-Hardalou the spokesman of the League stated that the brothers group signed the charter yesterday. The league comprising the Umma Party, Communist Party, National Unionist Party, Nasserist Party, Arab Ba'thist Socialist Party, the Islamic Socialist Party in [words indistinct].

Former Minister, Council Chairman Released*NC101824 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1810 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Apr (MENA) — Our correspondent in Khartoum has learned that 'Ali Shammu, former Sudanese minister of information, and Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid Hamad, chairman of the Friendship, Solidarity, and Peace Council, were released today.

'Ali Shammu was arrested on the first day of the Sudanese Army Movement [harakat]. He has a good reputation and is regarded as an expert on international media.

Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid Hamad was a Sudanese nationalist before Sudan's independence. He also participated in all Sudanese national movements before 1956.

General Command Says Detainees Assets 'Frozen'*EA102035 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] A responsible source at the People's Armed Forces' General Command has stated that the funds of all political detainees and all property and real estate that concern them have been frozen and their disposal prohibited, pending interrogation of the detainees and a decision made thereon.

Siwar al-Dhahab Says Numayri Can Return*NC102237 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces and chairman of the Transitional Military Council, has affirmed that Sudan and Egypt are linked by special relations dating back thousands of years. He added that nothing can damage these relations. He pointed out that the new Sudanese leaders' first communication was with Egypt. These remarks were part of a telephone interview the Sudanese leader granted to the Paris-based weekly *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI*, to be published tomorrow.

On the rebellion in the south, Siwar al-Dhahab said that the factors generating the rebellion, there and elsewhere, are now gone. He added that dialogue is continuing between the new Sudanese leaders and the brothers in the south, and that a practical formula to unify Sudan will be reached, if it has not already been reached.

Siwar al-Dhahab said that the Transitional Military Council intends to release all the former leaders detained after the 6 April Army movement if they are innocent of disrupting the political and economic situation. Others will face a fair trial.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab added that former President Ja'far Numayri will not be prevented from returning to Sudan if he so wishes. Sudan, he said, is open to all its sons.

Libya Offers To Help Halt Fighting in South*EA110954 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] Lt Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, has stressed that the move of the Sudanese people in the uprising of 6 April was a natural one once it had become clear that the situation in Sudan had deteriorated from bad to worse following the application of the political strike and the participation in it by all the Sudanese, thus demonstrating the wish of the Sudanese people to end the odious May regime.

His excellency made this statement to the Lebanese magazine *AL-HAWADITH* in his office at the GHQ of the People's Armed Forces. His excellency stated that contacts had actually been initiated with the quarter speaking on behalf of the Organization for the Liberation of Sudan [Munazzimah Litahrir al-Sudan].

Referring to future relations with Libya, his excellency said that Col al-Qadhafi had spoken with him by telephone to assure him of his satisfaction at the change which had taken place in Sudan, indicating that Libya would participate in halting the fighting in the south.

His excellency also stressed that the Armed Forces would hand over power to the people in an orderly manner, stating that the General Command had opened up channels of dialogue with all sections of the Sudanese people.

Lt Gen Siwar al-Dhahab expressed his appreciation for the excellent and developing relations between Sudan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. His excellency stressed Sudan's desire to promote the aims of the Arab nation, particularly the Palestinian people's desire to gain their lawful rights.

Turning to the country's economic situation, his excellency said: It is a burdensome heritage, but with the help of God, the efforts of the citizens and with the help of the sisterly countries we shall overcome the crisis. His excellency stressed that the economic situation will receive priority attention from the Transitional Military Council.

People in South Call For Abolition of Shari'a

JN111120 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1134 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Apr (SUNA) — The masses of the people in the south of the country yesterday sent a statement to General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces and chairman of the Transitional Military Council, in which they presented 10 points as their contribution toward finding effective solutions to the country's problems. The following is the text of the statement which was signed on behalf of the masses by nine representative from among the sons of the southern part of the homeland:

We the masses of people in southern Sudan, represented by professional, workers', businessmen, and students' organizations, and after having performed our national duty alongside all the Sudanese people's forces in the brave uprising against Numayri's dictatorship (long live the Sudanese people and their historic victory), welcome and praise the People's Armed Forces' decisive and timely intervention in support of the Sudanese people and in order to assume power for a transitional period. We do not have the slightest doubt that this step was taken in order to ensure the security and unity of the homeland and the citizens. This opens the way for the restoration of democracy in this country, which is an essential condition for ensuring unity and preventing the disintegration of Sudan. In view of the complicated political situation and the current crises and priorities, we feel that it is our duty to present the following viewpoints to the transitional national leadership as our contribution to the search for effective solutions to the country's problems:

1. The people of the south affirm their commitment to national unity. They believe that this can best be achieved and preserved by the full recognition and acknowledgment of racial and cultural diversities;

2. Now that the 1973 Constitution has been suspended, we demand [nutalib] the adoption of the 1956 Constitution which was amended in 1964 and the application of its provisions within the transitional period;

3. In recognition of the vital role played by the professional forces in the national struggle against Numayri's autocracy, we express our full desire to see these forces adequately and effectively represented in the transitional national government;

4. In order to entrench national unity in the ranks of the Sudanese people, with their different ideologies and religions, it

is essential to rescind the September 1983 laws that stipulate the application of Islamic Shari'a;

5. We would like to draw the transitional national leadership's attention to the fact that unequal representation of the south in the various national institutions has always been an explosive reason for resentment among the citizens in south. This fault must be rectified and the south must be adequately represented in all national institutions in proportion to its size and in conformity with its distinct character;

6. We strongly urge the transitional leadership to reinstate the Addis Ababa agreement and to form a transitional government in the southern region to help maintain peace and stability there;

7. The citizens of the south call on the commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces to pay particular attention to the selection of officers who assume responsibility for military regions in southern Sudan. Such officers must enjoy a reconciliatory spirit and must work for a quick normalization of the situation in the south;

8. The citizens of the south urge the new transitional leadership to quickly establish direct contact with the Sudanese People's Liberation Army and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement in order to hold urgent negotiations on a peaceful settlement, because the country cannot tolerate further bloodshed;

9. We ask the transitional leadership to order the release of political prisoners from all prisons and detention camps everywhere in the country as a signal of the new era;

10. We ask the new leadership to restore the principles of human rights and liberties and to enforce the supremacy of the law everywhere in the republic.

Long live the unity of the Sudanese nation! Long live the Sudanese people's solidarity with the People's Armed Forces!

SPLA Radio Says Garang Qualified To Speak for Nation

EA101549 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1348 GMT 10 Apr 85

[First Lieutenant (Tilar Ringtap Ngeng) commentary: "SPLA-SPLM Is Qualified To Speak for the Sudanese People"]

[Text] Yesterday the leader of the Sudanese People Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLA-SPLM] Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior made a statement in which he outlined the position of the movement vis-a-vis recent political developments in our country. [Words indistinct] which was broadcast by Radio SPLA, contained among others the rejection of the movement, the seizure of power by the generals in the Sudanese Army under General Siwar al-Dhahab, and who have been asked by the SPLA-SPLM to step down in favor of the people to exercise power for themselves. [sentence as heard]

The generals in our opinion have been part of the overthrown system and should not return to be champions of the popular uprising. As suspected, the enemies of the SPLA-SPLM were not amused by what the leader of the movement said on behalf of the Sudanese people for whom the arms struggle is being waged.

An unnamed member of the military ruling council was reported by a correspondent of foreign radio as saying that Col Garang did not have the right to speak for the Sudanese people and further added that Col Garang was speaking on behalf of what the member of the military council called communist masses. Being another form of Numayri tool which was characterized by racial and religious bigotry ignorance of even the affairs of the Sudan and the use of shameless lies as a method of hiding the reality of political situation in the country, the quoted member of the military council did not tell us or those who clearly understand the affairs of the Sudan anything new.

But there are some questions to be asked in order to understand the mentality of the new rulers and their style of reaction to bitter truth. Who does this unnamed spokesman for the so-called interim military council think should speak for the Sudanese people and what should be the qualifications of such a person? Who lays down the criteria of judging such criteria for any leader to speak for the Sudanese people? For our part and for those who understand the ingredients of leadership, Col Dr John Garang de Mabior is qualified and has the right to speak for the Sudanese people. He is the commander in chief of the Sudan People's Liberation Army, SPLA, an army of Sudanese who have volunteered to fight for a cause whose beneficiaries would be the oppressed and the exploited Sudanese masses, the majority of the population of our country.

The SPLA is a national army by its composition. It is made up of nearly all the various nationalities of the Sudan enhanced with the diverse social and professional background. In the SPLA there are professionals, workers, peasants, students, youth aged between 19 to 35 and people between 35 to 52. There are also women fighters in the SPLA. What representation does the member of the military council in Khartoum want?

SPLA could not be a political force if it did not have principles and objectives for achievements and preservation of unity and rights of the Sudanese people. It is because of these policies and objectives of SPLA-SPLM which won for the support of the rural population in the south and the liberals and progressives among our brothers and sisters from the north.

As champions of all the oppressed and exploited Sudanese, SPLA-SPLM and its leadership are qualified and have the right to speak for the Sudanese masses. Our commitment to fight for a genuinely united socialist Sudan where all citizens will be treated according to their deeds and loyalty to the nation and its people and not in accordance with the institutionalized racial or religious discrimination practised by various governments in Khartoum since independence makes SPLA-SPLM a national movement.

The remark by the member of the military council in Khartoum reminds people of the proposition which states that all Sudanese who belong to a particular race or creed are more Sudanese than others who do not belong to their group and that they are the only Sudanese qualified to rule and therefore to speak for the Sudanese people by virtue of those attributes. This absurd thinking is one of the policies and practices SPLA-SPLM is determined to fight to the end. Sudan belongs to all Sudanese people and their

race or religion are incidental to citizenship. They should not be the passports to or obstacles to positions of public responsibility including the leadership of the nation.

We have the support of mentally liberated northern Sudanese who are Muslims and profess Arabism and believed that all of us could live happily in the Sudan with all our diverse backgrounds given good leadership such as the one of SPLA-SPLM. To racist and religious bigots, such as the quoted member of the ruling military council, Col Garang is not qualified to speak for the Sudanese people because he is not a Muslim and has no Arab blood in him. How many Sudanese would approve of this thinking? Concerning the claim that the SPLA-SPLM leader was speaking for the so-called communist masters, his accuser is ridiculing himself.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab came to power through a prearranged transfer of power from Numayri to him by the Central Intelligence Agency — CIA. When the administration, with the CIA, which is notorious for use of hypocrisy and double standards in international relations, felt embarrassed by the crude methods of their puppet Numayri, the search for a smarter stooge to succeed Numayri began. It ended with Siwar al-Dhahab.

SPLA Leader Denies Contact With Regime

EA111336 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Yesterday General Siwar al-Dhahab, the head of the so-called interim military council, announced in a press conference that he had sent a message and an envoy to meet Dr John Garang de Mabior, the leader of the SPLA-SPLM.

In response to the claim by General Siwar al-Dhahab that he has sent an envoy to meet Dr John Garang de Mabior, the leader of SPLA-SPLM, Dr John Garang de Mabior said and we quote: What the gang of four have said is another way of defeating the Sudanese people. There have not been contacts between SPLA-SPLM and the gang of four, nor have there been messages nor messengers sent to me.

The SPLA-SPLM stand as contained by [as heard] my speech of 9 April remains the same. The gang of four must resign and should be reminded that they are left with five days as from today to do so. We assure the Sudanese people that we in the SPLA-SPLM will not compromise with General Siwar al-Dhahab and his council.

SPLA Leader Urged To Support Revolution

GF101540 (Clandestine) Voice of the Sudanese Popular Revolution in Arabic 1245 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] To the commander in chief of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army and chairman of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement: sincere national and struggle greetings. In these historic and critical hours witnessed by our Sudanese people's revolution — the revolution of October and April — we call on you in the name of common struggle; we call on you in the name of the principled stands which we have adopted in the Sudanese

Popular Socialist Movement, the movement of the revolutionary committees to publicize your struggle movement, in absolute support and with all our positions with you which we took with a sincere national responsibility derived from your charter which calls for struggle to overthrow the agent fascist May regime by the force of weapons and for the emergence of a new unified socialist Sudan.

From these constant positions we call on you in the name of your heroic martyrs in the Sudanese People's Liberation Army; we call on you in the name of our martyrs who fell in the marvelous popular uprising until they toppled the agent May regime; we call on you in these decisive and historical moments to show solidarity with the victorious popular revolution, with our heroic people who together — men and women from the furthestmost parts of our beloved country, south to north, west to east, and in the middle of Sudan — this strong and giant people will march with their revolution toward its victorious end and toward the establishment of the authority of the people which will enable the people to rule themselves in their villages, cities, and quarters, and which will enable all the Sudanese to sit together in the ruling chairs in their people's congresses and which does not differentiate between Sudanese males and females, and which does not allow the presence of oppressors or the oppressed, but only free brothers and masters.

Brother Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior: All the honest people of Sudan have been struggling to topple this agent fascist and bloody regime and you have played a great role that will be remembered by your Sudanese people. Now, after the unarmed popular masses have toppled the agent and dictatorial regime, we must unite our hearts and join our hands and march together as Sudanese, shoulder to shoulder, hand in hand, to build the Sudan of the future in the south and in the north. We must unite our efforts in order to save our people who were led by the agent May regime to hunger and death.

Brother Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior: The agent and bloody May regime has destroyed our beloved south; our north has been standing alongside you with extreme admiration and pride during all the strikes which you directed against that regime which has fallen under the feet of the masses.

Brother Dr John Garang: We call on you in the name of the hungry people in the south; we call on you in the name of the hungry people in the west and the hungry people in the east who died of hunger like our brothers in the south; we call on you to meet with all of us peacefully along the road of construction as we have met during the march of struggle in order to build the

south and in order to eliminate the tragedies of the west and the pains of the east.

Brother struggler and revolutionary Dr John Garang, brother struggler fighters of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, O brothers in the south and the north: We must forget our rancor which was caused by the biggest rancorous man whom we all have toppled. We call on you to let love and cohesion prevail in our villages and suburbs in the north and south so that love can fill all our hearts as Sudanese, and only Sudanese, and so that we can start a new era of green peace within the territory of our beloved Sudan. We will have a meeting in Khartoum, in Khartoum of October and April, in Khartoum of the masses. Forward and the revolutionary struggle continues.

Equatoria Military Commander Meets Officials

JN101449 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1426 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Juba, 10 Apr (SUNA) — Major General (Peter Sriilo), commander of the Equatoria Military Region, met with the directors of the provincial ministries here today. He discussed the tasks and duties of the current stage, and asked them to cooperate with the military committee in the region in order to channel all available resources to serve the citizens. He also called on them to follow self-discipline and regular work.

Maj Gen Sriilo also met with a delegation representing trade unions in the region. He explained to them the circumstances which made the People's Armed Forces assume power in order to secure the victory of the popular upheaval.

Upper Nile Commander Receives Lutheran Group:

JN101453 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1423 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Malakal, 10 Apr (SUNA) — Retired Brigadier General Muhammad Zayn al-'Abidin, commander of the military area in the Upper Nile Region, met here today with a delegation from the Lutheran financial welfare organization, led by (Liu Slima). His excellency discussed the supply situation and oil supplies with the delegation, as well as the problems of transportation and communications in the region. Slima said during the meeting that the organization is ready to extend food assistance to the region, and to resume work to develop the countryside. The commander of the region thanked the delegation for its initiative, and also thanked the organization for its acts of charity in the region.

Mengistu 'Central Report' to WPE CC Session
EA101403 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
 1710 GMT 8 Apr 85

["Central report" delivered by Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, PMAC chairman, at second regular plenary session of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee on 8 April in Addis Ababa — recorded]

[Text] Dear members and alternate members of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee:

A few months have passed since the historical constituent congress was held that confirmed the formation of the WPE. Even though this period has been short it is different by nature and has been filled with activity. Above all, it is a period in which we started to implement the objectives formulated by the WPE constituent congress, and in general opened a chapter in which party leadership has been tangibly manifested.

As this second regular session of our Central Committee is being held at a time when our party's program and, in general, its directives and resolutions are being practically tested, it will weigh the sum total of our work and will formulate methods that will pave the way for the success of our future steps. In addition it will compare the extremely disastrous natural problems and will analyze conditions that will make it possible to further strengthen our struggle on all fronts.

The issues that we will focus on during our meeting can be generalized in the following three parts:

1. those that give no respite and that require daily, close follow-up.
2. those that are contained in programs and that will be dealt with in the coming 6 months.
3. those that will be practically implemented in 1984/85-1985/86 in respect to the implementation of the first chapter in our 10-year development plan.

Inasmuch as future conditions are always determined by current efforts and the (?fruits) we expect tomorrow are decided by our struggle today, the work we are now doing and the results accruing from it will also affect our future steps toward development.

As to our current, serious struggle, especially in the present context of internal and external pressures, the work we are doing in all sectors and on all fronts will require an unprecedentedly special effort. Whereas our revolution has had an extremely heavy primary historic responsibility to eradicate backwardness and effect social growth, its responsibilities have recently become more complex due to the disastrous situation brought about by drought. However, in spite of the fact that we are face to face with a situation demanding heavy sacrifices to contain the problem afflicting every sector of social life and expedite development action, the broad popular movement now active in our country is one which is highly regarded and exemplary.

When it began work, our Central Committee's politburo gave priority attention to the worsening drought situation, assessed the situation, and drafted an action plan to provide our stricken compatriots with emergency aid and to make it possible to find a lasting solution to the recurring problem. Numerous tasks have been accomplished through the national framework set up to implement this program. The government has taken all possible steps ever since mid-1983 through 1984 when the drought showed signs of spreading and has made efforts to control the situation.

Having realized that the problem was beyond our national ability, great efforts were made to obtain international aid. By mobilizing all our internal resources and combining them with external support, all-out efforts have been made day and night in all directions to save the lives of our starving compatriots. Our party, government, and people have moved in unison to transport food, medicines, and various essential goods, shelter, and care for weaker citizens, distribute food and to carry out other similar urgent tasks.

It is known that the efforts being made to save the lives of severely stricken compatriots are not only limited merely to providing daily aid but are also supported by the rehabilitation program. Whereas the rehabilitation program will make it possible to contain drought permanently, there are two courses in its implementation. One is by means of limited short-term efforts to improve drought-hit areas whose climate is likely to improve and rehabilitate the stricken in their own former areas or locations. The other is to transport citizens from areas where there is no hope for improvement and resettle them in fertile parts of the country.

Through daily aid we have been able to save many of our citizens with the help of the support received from various friendly countries, governments, and organizations. Whereas we are gratified by the results, the efforts must continue until the problem is fully eradicated. In fact, the problem can be totally eradicated and a lasting solution found through the efforts being made on rehabilitation.

In this respect we are not certain that, apart from the socialist countries, outsiders will help us. It, accordingly, remains a complex task requiring our unreserved sacrifices.

However, even if the task is gargantuan, the results of the mammoth efforts we have made so far are very encouraging. Accordingly, from November 1984 to the beginning of April alone we have been able to move 338,984 people from Tigray, Welo, and Shewa regions by transporting them by air and land, and settle them in our western and northwestern regions [applause]. This accomplishment should not be viewed solely in the general light of resettling very large numbers of our citizens, but as the result of the prestigious efforts made to ensure its success in the spirit of love of country and revolution by many of our party's cadres, professional government employees, and various sectors of the working people. High tribute is also due to the organizational and technical experience acquired.

Inasmuch as the action plan drafted to contain the natural disaster problem has wide-ranging aims, it can be clearly seen

that great activities are in progress to expand irrigation and horticultural farming through the nationwide agitation embarked upon to contain the food shortage occasioned by drought.

With reference to the special emphasis placed by the action plan on the growth of agricultural production, we are now stepping up efforts to provide the farmer with various services. The efforts we have made in terms of effective water resource utilization, reservoir, and small dam construction and irrigation development have been encouraging. In general the wide-ranging activities to eradicate famine and contain the food shortage in all areas have been encouraging. In this respect, if the consciousness that has taken root in the minds of the working people is heightened, it will be possible to say with certainty that the future offers hope.

Dear comrades, even though today we have given priority to containing our urgent problems, our perspective and efforts will not be limited within this narrow scope. As the source or exacerbation of our problems lies mainly in our backwardness, we cannot solve our various problems without first changing this situation. Accordingly, all the solutions we apply to meet our current problems must take into consideration long-term and basic situations.

It is known that efforts to construct socialism on a basis of backwardness are fundamentally complex. During the transitional period, on the one hand the working people keenly want to leave behind their sufferings for a better life, while on the other the process of creating the necessary ideological, material, and technological conditions to make this objectively possible is still underway. During such a period, needs cannot be met if the objective situation is one in which a sharp class struggle based on the contradictions between private and social economic property and between capitalist and socialist tendencies is being waged.

At the conclusion of our party's constituent congress we all unanimously declared that our march would be long and the road full of various pitfalls and obstacles and extremely complex and tortuous. Accordingly, our objective situation now is one in which we are struggling against individualism, and rallying strongly for common benefits, and in which the crucial transitional point must be passed. It is therefore a period in which we must clearly identify those who genuinely pursue the aim of vigorously struggling for the lasting goals of the working people and those who pursue limited individual aims. It is a difficult period, common to social revolutions, in which the workers' consciousness and the leadership of the workers' party are tested.

This period is one which requires sincerity, decisiveness, firmness in objective, and major sacrifices from the forces of the revolution so that the democratic developments and victories consolidated by the people through struggle are fruitful, and so that today all the necessary measures are taken for the advanced people's victory and advanced social prosperity which we want to prevail tomorrow.

On the other hand, it is a period in which internal and external forces that stand for capitalism do everything in their power to transform the working people's desire to be the beneficiaries of the revolution into grievances and to make them lax. In this

respect, our enemies have found an opportunity that has further emboldened them especially because of the disastrous situation created in our country by the recent drought. Because of this the class struggle has been more intensified. It is possible to emerge victorious out of this situation, not by making the wrong assumption that it is possible to get mercy from the enemy, but through staunch struggle using appropriate methods. In respect to the special nature of this period, we have to strictly concentrate this struggle in all sectors. Ideological, military, political, economic, social, and all the other sectors of struggle require daily follow-up and emphasis.

It is known that in respect to the economy, and in respect to our country's objective situation, the basis for our development is agriculture, and that it has previously been (?resolved) to give it priority. Today, due to the problems brought about by drought [words indistinct] it has become more necessary to further strengthen the priority and emphasis placed on it. In this respect, since we are currently engaged in speedy and strengthened activities, it is believed that it is possible to get better results by further expanding and strengthening what we have started. While unreserved efforts are being made for the peasant to be provided with all possible support so that he can increase production, the true realization of the desired results will be confirmed when his produce is presented to the market.

Unless this is so, it will not be possible to satisfy the people's demand for food, provide raw materials for the industrial sector of the economy, and to earn foreign exchange by presenting agricultural produce for export.

Therefore, in addition to giving unprecedented support in promoting agricultural produce, we must also give the necessary organizational and comprehensive support to trade within the country so that it is properly distributed. As the distribution sector is complex and one of the vital sectors in which our revolution is put to the test, we have to follow closely its implementation, in particular, in view of the current actual situation so as to create a more dependable system.

Dear comrades, even though the appearance of the economic struggle we have embarked upon today to solve our temporary problems is magnified, in general the action taken in this respect is not viewed separately from the WPE program and the 10-year leading development plan. Therefore all development work being conducted during this period should be seen in the light of its contribution to our final result. While the basic task of development work is to (?identify) new spheres of economic activity, it is known that to implement this an accumulation of capital is required. This capital is not accumulated whenever it is convenient, but is acquired through special emphasis and major sacrifices. Since, generally, development cannot be brought about solely through economic activity, to show tangible development, production has to be achieved by paying a small price, a simple method: expenditure has to be covered through thrifty methods of operation, and should finally earn a profit that will enable the creation of additional economic activity.

The efforts to build up capital to be used for development cannot be seen from the viewpoint of individual economic institutions. There is a need to control unnecessary expenditures in any

institution where any economic activity takes place and even in the life of an individual. Public wealth should not be wasted. This is the only reason why we started to take action on limiting consumption in line with our country's capabilities. And without slackness we must tighten our controls over theft, embezzlement, and wastefulness. To make sure that work discipline is respected and to ensure the development of productivity in all institutions, these are some of the ways of accumulating capital.

It is only by organizing agriculture in a modern way, expanding industry and, in general, by putting our national economy on the socialist path that we can improve the life of the working people and strengthen our struggle toward this end. In respect to expansion and building, we must have a correct understanding that the strong participation of the government is very vital. Central planning is important, above all, to enable the government to play a decisive role in the economy. Even though it is known that it is difficult to implement central planning in a society where no socialist system previously existed, in our objective reality the plan is not aimed at being implemented after the socialist system has been established, but the plan is aimed as a leading tool that will serve us as a directive toward this end.

Since the advantages and benefits of correct planning have been much discussed, it is not necessary to give details here. Yet, it is a major issue that will need to be discussed repeatedly for the analysis of the implementation of our plans tomorrow. Unless the correct plan is organized and implemented, it will be very difficult to acquire capital and use it in appropriate development projects and achieve continuous development.

The points we discussed above are systems being used to implement our development plans. There is no better indication than action that they are scientific. In this respect, our revolution, apart from making democracy flourish among the working people starting from the political up to the economic front, has enabled the masses to create the basis for building a socialist system which is the foundation for the complete realization of the people's ambitions. Even though the people were not able to utilize to the full the victories achieved, and although we have various problems, these problems do not arise from the policies we are pursuing, as our enemies are propagating, but are due to the machinations of our enemies against us on top of natural disasters.

Were it not for the correctness of our policy and the strong support of the working people for its implementation, our revolution would never have prevailed in the face of the intrigues of our enemies and the ugly natural disasters that are evident in our country. As a result of the famine brought about by the drought, our enemies tried to denigrate our revolution at first and then tried to belittle our agricultural policy. The agricultural policy of our revolution has freed the peasant from the feudal yoke of slavery and is not one that invites famine, as is propagated falsely by our enemies. On the contrary, it is one that will alleviate problems. Agriculture can be useful when it is well organized in a modern system. The activities being carried out in this respect and the efforts with the necessary support given for the implementation of the policy are an encouragement, not a barrier, to development.

Even though our policy is being implemented properly, because of their unwillingness to see us build a society free from exploitation, our enemies are using every system of struggle which seems appropriate for their benefit and they accuse us falsely. This does not impress us. Even though our enemies, who have stood for individual ownership and exploitation, are trying hard to falsify stories, it is known that such stories cannot be maintained in the face of the common prosperity of the working people. We have to understand that our class enemies are causing our problems so as to fabricate situations. Hence, in solving our problems we have to strengthen our hold over all fronts. The discomfiture of our enemies is a prime issue that we can never neglect. This is the major obligation called for by the construction of the new popular political system.

The construction of the new political system that will guarantee our development has been carried out since the downfall of the imperial regime. In this respect various new governmental and public authority structures have been expanded to reflect the radical changes that have been carried out in society. Above all, our party, the nucleus and vanguard of this system, has come into existence. The actions that freed the working people from economic exploitation and the situations that allowed them to reap the advantages for good are the sole assurance for the supremacy of the political party. The political supremacy of the broad masses of Ethiopia cannot be expressed in the context of the victories achieved through the revolution but must find expression through direct political participation in society. The participation in various revolutionary activities by the working masses which are organized into various sectors of the organizations that have been created by the revolution is being expanded and developed. But even today the political supremacy of the broad masses comes through the regular representation of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and not through direct representation.

Satisfactory results have been achieved in the efforts carried out over the past 10 years in the activities implemented to demolish the old regime's government structures and replace them with a new system to create suitable conditions for the participation of the broad masses and in giving the higher political structures depth and breadth. Since the transition period that we are in is generally reflected in this sector, the struggle should continue until the contradiction between the old and new systems is removed through the supremacy of the new and perfect system. In this respect, the timely question of our revolution is posed as the guarantee for the governmental structures with full democracy and the tangible proof for this guarantee is the formation of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. The formation of the republic is a point toward the great leap that solves the contradiction between the old and new systems and will give the necessary shape and content to the people's political system built by our continuing struggle.

Among the activities carried out and results achieved in the struggle to construct the new political system were the preconditions for the formation of the WPE. The existence of our party was a precondition for the formation of the republic because it alone will guarantee a reliable leadership for the formation of the republic and it is an assurance that the new government will be formed on the basis of a strong social foundation.

The overall principles for the organization, structure, and working system of the new government and for the active participation of the working masses are clearly stated in the WPE program. In order to achieve our goals in any struggle, the active participation of the broad masses is decisive and it is an obligation for the government that we will be forming to fulfill this basic condition in order to meet its responsibilities capably. The heavy and complex task of finalizing the national democratic revolution and laying the foundation for the formation of socialism will call for the active participation of the working people with a wider scope and strength more than ever before. Therefore, the government that is the tool for the implementation of our revolution's continuous plan should be a suitable forum for the necessary participation of the public. It is impossible to achieve the goal of constructing the new system without the direct participation of the broad masses. The victories scored at various stages by the revolution are only springboards for more victories but are not goals by themselves. Hence, the activities to be carried out in all directions in satisfying the needs of the broad masses will be many and heavy. Therefore, direct participation in the affairs of the government will from time to time expand and develop. The structure and organization of the government should be suitable for this goal and be based on democratic centralism, proletarian internationalism, and socialist justice and overall marxist leninist principles, and this demonstrates the direction of our party's scientific plans toward this end.

Since the correctness of the plan is not enough, there is a need for correct preparation for its implementation. Based on the general directive in our party program, detailed directives and implementation plans for follow-up toward this end should be prepared. In this respect, starting with carrying out studies that will help mold a constitution for the republic, various activities are being carried out to decide the content and extent of the constitution and to prepare other relevant laws. As Ethiopia is a country of many nationalities, the democratic nature of the government to be formed will be evidenced in its organization and structure where the quality of nationalities is tangibly guaranteed.

In this respect, by analyzing the economic situation in the various parts of the country and by understanding the settlement of the nationalities, a study has gotten underway to determine the new administrative areas that will exist in the new government. This issue, nationalities, which is highly complex, should be carefully reviewed during the formation of the republic. It is an area that should allow a suitable opportunity for the working people to use their democratic rights widely and we have to be sure to achieve this.

Since the democratic nature of the (?infrastructure) apparent in Ethiopia and the direct participation of the working people in the affairs and bodies of the government organs cannot be viewed apart from the self-administration of nationalities, the plan for the formation of the republic established by the party for the guarantee of the equality and common prosperity of nationalities, that is regional autonomy, will be implemented. Hence, studies on giving life to the self-government of nationalities and the detailed conditions that should be fulfilled are underway and their speedy results will be encouraged.

The accomplishment of these preparations will make a great contribution in our practical activities, but it is not in itself decisive. It is proper to understand the result of the efforts of the activities in various sectors of our society will have their own share in the achievement of the formation of the republic and for the construction of the republic on strong foundations.

Today all the activities that we are engaged in to solve our problems timely, to satisfy the basic needs of the working people, and to lay the foundations for our strategic goals should be in line with the formation of the republic. To make the strength of the social base of the republic more reliable and to develop the participation of the working people in the formation process, we have to make special efforts. It is important to understand that the further expansion and strengthening of the participation of the people through public organizations in the various affairs of the country will prepare them to take, with a better capability, their share in the republic. Hence, the strengthening of public organizations at this time should not be viewed lightly. The democratic nature of the new system that will be structured in the formation of the republic will not be measured and decided on only through the ability of the people to elect their representatives to governmental bodies.

In general, the popularity of the system and, in particular, the democratic nature of the government will be apparent through the extent of the participation of the working people in all directions. Hence, on the eve of the formation of the republic, the activity to be carried out to prepare the participation of the people for this kind of activity will include the expansion and strengthening of the existing forums of participation and the creation of new ones. The participation of the working people in multi-structured governmental activities will not be limited to the government bodies but will include the ability to contribute in work and residential areas.

Our efforts to expand the participation of the workers in production work, to develop the contribution that the peasants and other organized popular sectors of the broad masses will give for the development and security of the area cannot be viewed apart from the activities that are being carried out to form the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on a strong foundation. In this respect it is appropriate to ensure that the organizational work of government bodies at all stages is suitable for the participation of the people.

Even though the results achieved by our efforts in line with demolishing the old government's infrastructures and replacing them with the new one cannot be viewed lightly, it is difficult to say that what we need in this respect has been fulfilled. The remnants of the old system in organizational operation and other aspects are still evident. Even though we are in a complex situation, the prevailing situation of the contradiction between the old remnants and new bodies cannot be allowed to continue.

As I have mentioned above, this contradiction should be avoided through the new victory. The organization and structure of the republic should reflect this. In this respect we have to prepare the necessary conditions for the formation of the republic by giving depth to the democratic government infrastructures and by

creating situations to remove bureaucratic infrastructures and activities.

The huge responsibility for the formation of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the accomplishing of activities that are decisive in the long term development of our country, is not laid on specific departments but will require the coordinated efforts of all bodies of the political system.

In this respect, starting from this moment, when we are preparing the best conditions for the execution of the practical actions involved in the formation of the republic, it is expected from party, government, and public bodies that they make unreserved efforts to utilize all the experience that they have acquired toward this end.

Dear comrades, even though the things we have done in abolishing the old system and laying the foundation for a new system are assurances for the correctness of our principles, it is undeniable that the struggle and sacrifice facing us are more challenging than ever. I believe it is appropriate to look briefly at the present and assess the nature of the class struggle when we are trying to assure the working people's supremacy in the progress of our struggle. All the attempts, direct or indirect, to obstruct the progress of our revolution and destabilize our unity have the military, economic, and political support of imperialist forces, and it is clearly seen that it is based on this support more than ever.

The struggle we face to combat this concerted attack is forcing us to make great sacrifices in terms of lives. The pressures thus brought to bear on our efforts to improve the life of the broad masses and to promote social and economic development cannot be underestimated. The economic crisis affecting us has been greatly exacerbated by various international monetary and development organizations with major responsibilities toward the development of our country and by secessionists and other reactionary collaborators. This has become a great obstacle.

Moreover, antipeople elements who have never loved or respected the country are being assembled as their propaganda tools and are carrying out a great propaganda campaign to spoil the ever-strengthening relations with socialist countries, particularly with the USSR. Not content with this, they are exploiting the temporary problem we face, trying to undermine the revolution's glorious victories for which Ethiopia's martyred patriots have paid with their blood.

The plots being hatched everywhere to undermine our long standing unity and freedom and which blame the revolution and socialism for the ugly famine caused by drought cannot be viewed lightly. These plots being carried out by imperialists and reactionaries by assembling the reactionary and antirevolution and anti-unity forces which have manifested themselves in various forms inside and outside the country, and deploying them against us by arming them by means of antirevolutionary and anti-unity coordination, are no secret.

In the pretense of supplying food aid to compatriots who have been forced to flee from the northern regions and who are refugees in Sudan they are supplying arms and rations to seces-

sionists. Apart from marring the great efforts being made by the revolutionary government and the broad masses to contain the problem, they are collaborating with the reactionaries to make our citizens flee. This demonstrates the degree of their hostility.

In its aims to heighten the pressure in our region, American imperialism is expanding and strengthening its military bases in neighboring and adjacent countries. By strengthening the ground, air, and naval forces in these military bases from the Indian Ocean up to the Persian Gulf, Red Sea, and Mediterranean regions, it is creating tension through its arrogance and provocation. The reactionary regime in Somalia, by recently opening its doors to the South African racist regime, has made the Horn of Africa's situation even more grave.

Comrades, in any revolution, unless it is capable of emerging victorious by resisting all attacks launched from any direction, progress cannot be straightforward, and it cannot achieve its goals. The existence of the revolution and that of the country can be respected and based on this: an improvement in the people's living standard can be achieved only when national defense and public security are armed with the necessary qualified manpower and modern arms, and when it takes the broad masses as the basis for its objectives and its implementation.

The power of our enemies has reality in its strength but should be viewed against our weakness. Hence, in order to resist the attacks launched against us and to eliminate the sources of our worries we have to fight our own weaknesses. We have proved this reality not only from earlier revolutionary experiences but from our own revolutionary progress, and it has been possible to keep our revolution and our country in existence up to now through the necessary sacrifices of the broad masses along with the revolutionary forces.

As in the other sectors, and in line with the struggle in which we are engaged, victory and sacrifice have not yet ended in the military sector. Hence, so long as the attacks of our enemies are there and until we reach our objectives, it is clear that this decisive revolutionary struggle will continue, and that is why special attention is given to the expansion of the mass-based defense force and its progressive capability in war tactics. By properly using the participation of the masses for the strengthening of our defense force and by not deploying the regular forces on set tasks, we must avoid wasting manpower. Basically it is better to crush the enemy force in its infancy, and there is no better solution than the people's force. It is undeniable that it is necessary to mobilize the regular forces (?to face) an enemy force of greater strength.

The thing that should receive the most attention in the process of building a strong people's defense force in our country is the deployment within a short time of thousands of young people in the national military service programs who are capable of practical participation and (?providing) increased and additional force for the security of our revolution. Nonetheless, it will be difficult to judge the security of our revolution and country only by taking appropriate action in intensifying this effort and in strengthening the regular forces. The deployment of trained revolutionary guards, selected from the masses, to guard the security and well-being of the area and to generally control

criminals and antirevolutionary activities from the start of the revolution was a move to achieve this goal.

The objectives of the decree issued by the revolutionary government to establish territorial people's militia and to enhance its activities is a basic guarantee to strengthen the people's defense capability. It is possible to understand from the encouraging results already achieved that the formation of the territorial people's militia has made a great contribution to guarding the boundaries of the country and the security of the area, as well as preserving the peaceful life of the people, and, in particular, in combating natural and man-made problems. It is believed that when efforts are further increased along these lines, there will be additional security and reliability in the country's defense force. Our efforts to build a strong people's defense force should be led by plans and programs for the development of our revolution and it is necessary to view this aspect together with the general development plans and with the past, present, and future possible attacks that may occur.

Even though it is necessary to facilitate organizational and technical preparations to enable those deployed in the defense or national security sectors to overcome the great and heavy responsibility placed upon them, these preparations are not in themselves decisive. Hence, efforts should be intensified to carry out strong political activities within their organization, and strengthen their members' Marxist-Leninist principles to enable them to achieve their obligations with a stronger unity of principles and action. We have to carry out activities that will enable us to strengthen our defense force and become certain of defending our revolution: more organizational preparedness, suitable administrative arrangements for speedy movement, and deeper and wider political activity with a coordinated and synchronized system.

As the stronger sector will strengthen other sectors, and the weakness of one sector will not remain limited but will directly or indirectly put pressure on the other sectors, it will be necessary to coordinate and synchronize the efforts of all sectors. Since the attacks on our revolution are not only directed at the military sector alone, our understanding of preparedness to fight the enemy in any sector should be wider, since an [words indistinct] limited to a declared war but can also undermine the revolution clandestinely. Hence, we have to be sure that we are capable of controlling this aspect. It is difficult to say that we have defended (?ourselves against) the enemy, if we neglect the attempts being carried out through various covert ploys to let the people's trust in the revolution diminish and by neglecting imperialist and reactionary mercenaries. Hence, we have to tighten our control.

There are people today who, by virtue of the responsible position they are holding, have sold themselves to exploiters who are all out for an (?individualist's) world, who distort government directives and intensify corruption, favoritism, plundering, and wastefulness. Hence, the strategies and tactics set up for the development of our lasting development should be able to show those enemies the invincibility of the revolution. In general, it is possible to go forward victoriously to our goals only when we develop our ideological maturity, work hard in all sectors for a better result, and are able to competently assume responsibilities and share the work.

To enable us to realize this, it is believed that we have to set up a system where favorable conditions for speedy achievement will be created, to identify and promote hard workers and a working system, and to follow up in the governmental structures and, in general, in the political system where the lazy and reluctant workers should be castigated.

Dear comrades, in line with the WPE's relations with the working people, the exemplary participation and behavior of its members has a decisive role in the acceptance of its leadership. Every member found at any level of our party structure should stand for the supremacy of the working people, for the building of socialism in Ethiopia, in his work and social life, and show in practice the stand of his organization. To achieve this, it is the member's responsibility to study and teach Marxism-Leninism and to take it as a guide for his struggle and day-to-day life. He should understand that it is his responsibility to enlighten, carry out, and see to the carrying out the policies and directives of our party, at all available opportunities.

It is very important to remember that exemplary work is a prerequisite for fruitful results in propaganda and agitation work. When we talk of exemplary work, it should not be limited to fame and name but should be done at any time or place based on scientific theories as a guide for life and be elaborated clearly and tangibly in all social life. If our party's cadres, while carrying out their responsibilities or in their individual private actions, have ideological maturity and strength, if they go on developing their active participation in propaganda and agitation work, and if they prove that they are not opposed to the principles that we have stood for in (?our) actions, it is undeniable that we will be able to change this country in a short time. If all cadres, in their regular work, individual or social life, understood that they are agitation propaganda workers and put forth the necessary efforts and become exemplary, there will be no force that will obstruct the participation of the working masses in the implementation of the principles of our revolution.

In this aspect we have talked much, we have written much, and yet the important thing is to implement what is said into action, and attention should be given to practical activities. Our agitation propaganda work should start from being a nucleus of our principles and the ideological proposals should be a tool for understanding the individual and his surroundings, for the achievement of active popular participation, development of creative ability, and a solution to social problems by coordinating the surrounding manpower and natural resources. It is not always possible to agitate and lead people by raising general slogans repeatedly. Today, as yesterday, one of the sectors of struggle that we are engaged in with our enemies is the ideological sector. The propaganda system being used by our enemies is being intensified by them. But, the broad masses are combining their activities of solving the prevalent problems with their regular constructive struggle and are shaming their enemies with a practical response.

In this respect, in order to strongly resist our enemies, it is our party's prime objective to prepare conditions that will enable us to develop our party's ideological system. The party cannot avoid the responsibility of developing the political consciousness of the broad masses: it is important to make use of all governmental

and public organization forums and infrastructures. In order to make the activities of agitation propaganda through the mass media and other forums fruitful, we have to reassure the people by presenting constructive criticisms based on listening to the views of the people, by having a better understanding of obvious weaknesses, and by preparing the people for struggle. We must also make sure that all these are based on a correct system in all sectors.

The other mission of the ideological work of the party is to avoid backward customs and views and to carry out a cultural revolution based on the formation of a new socialist patriot, creating a new man armed with revolutionary zeal who stands for equality and common prosperity and is made in a spirit of internationalism.

In the process of our revolution substantial results have been achieved in the struggle carried out to rid the working people of backward thinking, to alleviate its class consciousness, to develop its organized participation, and to develop their political culture. But, owing to a laxity of work discipline, trying to live beyond our means, and a lack of self-confidence and self-reliance, there are problems that cannot be viewed negligently. Therefore attention should be given to removing these obstacles which are creating a hindrance to the development progress with which we are now faced.

In order to fully realize our ideological work and the strengthening of the supremacy of the revolution, greater responsibility is expected from us, the members and bodies of WPE at all levels more than ever before, for continuous participation based and strengthened by ideological unity and coordinated through party and government propaganda forums and media to assist and strengthen the continuing effort. The class struggle has become more complex but has not ended. Hence, to relax or be lax and to think that the revolution will lead itself is a wrong and dangerous tendency. One of the causes of weakness in all sectors is the lack of ideological strength and a lack of the study of principles. We have to urgently understand this, rectify it, forge ahead, and examine ourselves through the results that we achieve from our practical activities.

Dear comrades, this historic time in which we live is a transitional period from capitalism to socialism and the prevailing basic antagonism is based on these two antagonistic social systems. Hence, any popular movement in any country cannot be without either supporting or opposing one of the two systems. We have, at the will of history, stood for socialism which is the guarantee of mankind.

Hence, we are in support with [as heard] the socialist community and in general with those who stand for justice, democracy, peace, and social progress and are in enmity with imperialist and reactionary forces. As our revolution is [words indistinct], the relationship we form with the world socialist system, which is the [word indistinct] and decisive factor of this process, in the political, economic, social, and [word indistinct] fields, has brought us great support conducive to our struggle in protecting our motherland and our revolution, overcoming problems and laying a strong foundation for development in the future.

As our relationship is based on a similar objective, it is a fact that it will be further strengthened and enhanced and make its contribution to the strengthening of socialism and the protection of world peace. In the struggle to overcome the problems brought about by the drought, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries are, along with other governments and various aid agencies, besides participating in the process to alleviate our temporary problems, providing us with decisive assistance in our struggle for a lasting solution to the problem, just as they have done during the trying periods of the past. Their contribution in helping us free our compatriots from being recipients to making them productive members of society is based on proletarian internationalism and is sure proof of a sincere friendship.

As our foreign relations work should overcome the pressures of antagonistic powers, increase our number of friends, and protect our national interest, and since it compensates for efforts in various other fields, it should be strengthened in its organizational structure. In this respect, hand in hand with the efforts to fulfill the necessary conditions to properly implement our foreign policy, it has become necessary to deploy abroad vanguard cadres, who are the forefront members of our party, since the task of assessing the situation in the host country and the representatives of the revolution assigned there and ensuring that they clearly carry out their roles was found to be one of the burning questions of the time. Consequently we are strengthening our activities toward this end.

As stated in the WPE program and the 10-year perspective plan, the short-term and long-term development projects in various fields are extensive and numerous, and they require foreign cooperation based on mutual benefit. In general, after properly assessing the various (?contributory factors) of external situations in implementing the development plans we have formulated, it is necessary that we increase our efforts to make the activities in the foreign relations field fruitful. The bodies responsible for foreign policy should be assisted as much as possible to increase their ideological strength and understanding so that they can carry out the WPE's directives in a coordinated manner. In this respect we should give priority to the strengthening of their consciousness and improving their work by relating the experiences we have gained to tangible situations and relating internal situations to external situations.

Dear comrades, although various obstacles created by nature-related problems have put pressure on our development efforts, if we resolutely embark on implementing the economic and social development policy formulated by our party's program for the progress of our country and prosperity of our peoples and the 10-year perspective plan formulated to put this policy into practice, there is no doubt that within a short time we can relegate the current trying problems to the past. As clearly stated in our party's basic documents, the basic objective of our economic policy is to hasten the development of the forces of production, increase the productivity of our economy, improve socialist economic administration, get rid of obstacles to progress, and, through this process, increase the living and cultural standards of the working people which are the objectives of our economic development.

The basis of our medium- and short-term plan is the agricultural economic sector, and our efforts are to increase productivity and eliminate food shortages, be self-sufficient in food, produce ample amounts of raw materials for our factories, and be able to bring in the foreign exchange and reserves needed for economic development. To do this we need to hasten the new organizational structure of agricultural production, modernize the technological basis and, in particular, free working methods from a total dependence on nature. As the basic reason for our economic problems is that the agricultural economic sector did not register growth, the main focus of our party's programme, our economic policy and the 10-year perspective plan is to bring about the necessary changes in this economic sector. The plan of action formulated by our Central Committee Political Bureau a few months ago concerning the nature-related problems took as its basis the economic policy formulated earlier by our party.

In general, the party program and perspective plan have provided a good foundation for the plan of action, and the plan on its part contributes toward the hastening of the implementation of the party program and that of the perspective plan. The plan of action pointed out the immediate steps to be taken to alleviate the food shortage caused by the drought. As I stated above, it also facilitates conditions for the implementation of the long-term goals formulated to free the agricultural sector from the ugly pressures of nature and hasten its growth. In the plan formulated, the resettlement activity has a decisive place in the rehabilitation work, and it has been stated properly in our party's program that, in general, the settling of the farmer in agreeable areas and their collectivization has an extensive contribution toward changing the agricultural economic sector.

In order to eliminate unbalanced population and wealth distribution in our country, systematize development, properly distribute social services and especially ensure that the peasantry, who are part of the majority people's struggle, benefit from all that is offered by the revolution and are able to carry out the responsibilities expected of them, there is no alternative other than collectivizing the peasantry. The fact that peasants lived far apart created difficulties in providing economic social services needed for agricultural growth and modern agricultural know-how. It has also been clearly seen that it is difficult to provide immediate assistance whenever man-made or nature-related problems occur. Hence, while still protecting the choice of farming individually, the task of creating conditions for collectivizing peasants not only enables us to make proper use of the country's fertile land, rich waters and other wealth, but is also a fundamental question for the general social growth of the people.

The main focus of our economic activity at present is to implement the plan of action. Nevertheless, we should not overlook the task of building additional productive power to revive the weakened economic growth. As I tried to point out in the first part of this report, in order to build additional productive power we first have to answer the question regarding reserves. In this respect our development institutions should increase surplus, reduce cost, formulate suitable financial and loan policy and encourage economization. In order to eliminate the problems presented to our economic growth due to lack of reserves, we need to further strengthen the reliable economic relations we have with socialist countries which is based on unity of goals, and extensively

implement the direct exchange system which allows us to pay for technological import by barter.

On the other hand, so long as the loans and assistance emanating from our economic relations with the capitalist world do not conflict with our development desires, we should continue our efforts to make use of them. Another question concerning reserves is then to alleviate the financial problems of the economy. In view of the tangible situation the chance to increase income within a short time is very limited, the one and main alternative is to lower costs as much as possible. Accordingly, efforts will be made to make proper (use) of and reduce the amount of foreign exchange used for importing capital goods, raw materials, spare parts and consumer goods (so as) not to increase the normal government expenditure.

As seen through our experiences in the past years, our ability to prepare projects so as to make full use of the (revenue) acquired is very limited. Hence, the task of developing our ability to study, prepare and assess projects and strengthen our ability to study and assess development projects has become a fundamental one which has to be implemented.

As construction is one of the major sectors in the economic development process, we should: Reduce the manpower and equipment shortage it faces, standardize building construction design, regulate the cost of construction under an agreement between the construction company and the client, reduce the ever increasing price of construction materials and gradually improve the quality of construction material and strengthen this economic sector's intradependency with other economic sectors. This will immediately alleviate the working people's housing problem through a people's system.

Our economic development efforts can only become fruitful when we can strengthen our scientific and technological ability. Accordingly, the task of strengthening our ability to collect, accumulate, distribute and make (proper use) of technological documents has become a crucial question.

In this respect proper focus will be put on the gradual strengthening and expanding of research activities in development sectors by giving priority to agricultural research. In the task of building our economy's productive power, the training of man power has an important place. Hence, a system will be formulated that can be carried out in a planned way, training at the national level and in each development institution and the training will be such that it will conform to the needs of our country. The points mentioned above are given special consideration in view of our current problems. As stated in the WPE program and the 10-year perspective plan on the task of building our economy's additional productive power, efforts will continue to complete geological studies in some areas of the country so as to improve traditional technology, replace backward energy sources with modern ones, and develop our natural wealth. Close attention will also be paid to ensure that the plan for exploring some mineral deposits with production potential is accelerated. Concerning energy sources, all the necessary support will be provided in hastening the completion of the Melka waken and Gibe projects [hydroelectric projects]. Dear Comrades, another point I want to mention again, which needs to be studied deeply

with regard to economic development, is that consumption should be based on our country's means and that we should be ready to make every sacrifice needed to become self-sufficient. The tastes and habits cultivated by certain members of our community for luxury items has absorbed part of the country's wealth which could be used for development and has created a feeling among the people that has weakened development efforts. Hence, if we say that we have determinedly set out to bring about economic development, we need to regulate consumption individually and collectively. Hence, the implementation of directives issued towards this end is one of the burning questions of our time.

Among the steps necessary to free ourselves from our economic problems and to lay the basis for eliable growth, is the task of finding solutions to the defects in policy, structure working methods and coordination, which are obstacles to the progress of development institutions in public (?holdings) in particular. In this respect priority will be given to regulating legally the relationship between institutions in the field of production and distribution and those rendering services.

Regarding the preparation and implementation of the plan [as heard], necessary steps will be taken to further organize the plan structure at central and zonal levels, to prepare plans scientifically, collect necessary documents and properly disseminate them. In order to properly implement formulated plans, efforts will be made to formulate them so as to correspond with the available means and to follow up and assess their implementation. As the top-heavy infrastructure in some development institutions is an obstacle to correct working methods and productivity, the situation will be studied wherever evident and necessary plans formulated to correct it.

Another problem in administering and directing the economy is the lack of uniformity of accounting, registration of property, and its care and usage in development institutions. We need to take steps to eliminate this weakness, and in order to ensure their implementation, public and government control and also close monitoring are necessary.

Because developing productivity is imperative to accelerate the growth of our economy, it is essential to evolve ways of effecting this and bringing about disciplined socialist competition by introducing the socialist system of work and payment, guided by the principle: From each according to his ability and to each according to his work.

As the application of the existing bank loan interest policy is minimally effective for strengthening socialist [word indistinct], it is necessary to formulate a system which will make financial backing available for cooperative associations in rural and urban areas and encourage and control government development institutions.

In addition to the current efforts to systematize the trade sector, steps will be taken to devise and apply a suitable method which takes into account the buying power of the working people and the promotion of productivity by producers. The government's participation in the strengthening of the trade sector by making it a socialist process, particularly in the distribution of the produce of small producers, will be stepped up. Our economic

capacity is extremely low in contrast with our aspirations to eradicate the problems evident in our society. It is therefore very clear that in order to overcome this weakness we face a task which demands heavy sacrifice and an invincible will.

One of the current social areas affected by severe shortages is housing. Even though this problem has not been easily dealt with in any country, if coordinated efforts are made by applying appropriate methods, it can be solved gradually. We believe accordingly that the new housing policy which envisages increased government, association, and individual participation in housing building within the scope of our economic ability, will enable us to better satisfy basic requirements.

If the unbalanced situation still affecting this sector can be rectified, a wider and useful door will open for the working people.

Whereas the various social problems require daily attention, and every possible appropriate step is being taken, the particular issue of orphans now needs more positive action. Many children have been sheltered by virtue of the cooperation of various philanthropists; it is the duty of all to seek ways of making the lives of our citizens comfortable, for it is they who will be the recipients of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

Our economic development must not only eradicate our notorious problems but also enable us to find a lasting solution to the dire disaster brought by drought. Its general mission is to free us from backwardness, which is the basic reason for our becoming victims. Therefore, though all the working people of this country desire to fulfill their needs, history calls on them first to rally decisively to discharge this great responsibility.

It is our party's priority task and its leadership obligation to motivate the people to participate in the work and to ensure that the call receives full response.

Dear comrades, it is not possible to succeed by means of genuine aims and sincerity alone. Aims cannot be achieved by means of pretence and haphazard activities. Appropriate implementation methods are necessary for the achievement of correct aims. In this respect, the steps to effect the changes needed to bring about social development must be based on a specific policy. The correct policy laid down for the achievement of aims must be based on a full understanding of the historical process of growth, and enhance and strengthen the role of the forces of consciousness. It is on this basis that our revolution has been able to reach its present stage; by applying the correct policy laid down, based on a correct understanding of prevailing conditions and the tangible goals set, and by proceeding in harmony with prevailing internal and external conditions.

As stated by Marxism-Leninism and portrayed by the history of revolutions, the aims of the revolution can be fully implemented only under the leadership of a vanguard Marxist-Leninist party. In this respect, although our revolution was able to proceed without party leadership for a certain period, many sacrifices were made to create such a leadership and to ensure the formation of the WPE at a time when the need for them was vital. The fact that a coordinated and correct party leadership constitute

essential factors for a revolution to proceed towards its goal securely, was properly understood by us during our past struggle.

As the complex situation we find ourselves in today demonstrates, whenever the revolution advances, the party leadership must simultaneously define future steps. When our revolution is seen in this light, we realize that even though it is guaranteed by the formation of the WPE leadership, the effectiveness of the guarantee depends on the relentless efforts being made to promote the WPE'S leadership role.

As it is only 6 months since the formation of the WPE, it is difficult to thoroughly assess the results of its role as vanguard leader. It is clear that the last 6 months have mainly been a period during which activities were initiated, but due to the all-out efforts made to contain the problems occasioned by the drought, it has not been possible to rapidly carry out set tasks of the desired scope. Nonetheless, the vanguard WPE has drafted a plan of action to contain natural problems and find a lasting solution and has closely followed up its implementation, which is a tangible manifestation of its leadership.

The party's exemplary vanguard leadership in respect to urgent problems is highly regarded. This highlights the need for its performance to be emulated and highly developed in other sectors.

Much has been said about the need for and applications of party leadership. Many discussions have also been held. Our current objective stems from this understanding and envisages the observance of the general basic directives contained in our party's program and regulations and in general in the documents of the formation congress.

Our party's leadership is not confined to documents and directives, but expresses its vanguard role by participating in their practical implementation, thus confirming the effectiveness of its leadership and developing its role through experience.

Dear comrades, the implementation of the policy drafted by the WPE cannot be effected within the framework of the party alone. Albeit that our party's central and crucial role in this respect is unquestionable, achieving the desired result cannot possibly succeed without the participation of state and public organizations. Special emphasis must therefore be placed on creating further suitable conditions under which the framework of the revolutionary government and the infrastructures of public organizations can be activated for the execution of the program and various directives of the WPE program. In this respect the recruitment of large numbers of party members in governmental and public organizations is a decisive issue. This is because what is expected is not only a quantitative growth, but also increased participation out of conviction, in conjunction with recruiting members capable of constant follow-up, to confirm that the contribution of veteran members is up to the mark.

At the present stage of our revolution, particularly when bureaucracy and its machinery have not yet been totally eradicated, it is clear that the task ahead of eradicating them is not easy. Efforts are being made to ensure that the relevant directives issued by the government administration and economic

institutions, they are certainly inadequate [as heard]. If the number of party members in government organs continues to be limited to a low level, spiritual preparation, which is a principal tool for the realization of our party's leadership cannot be completed in this area. The main point is not only to increase the small number of members, but as previously stated, to ensure that they are capable of giving the necessary assistance.

Although our mass organizations are still in the process of developing their experiences, they have been carrying out highly regarded tasks within their means by organizing the working people in all sectors. But from now on, since the responsibilities they have to shoulder are heavy, they need to make the necessary preparations that will enable them to operate with sufficient capability. They will not overcome this on their own, but their efforts will be enhanced by the support given to them by the party and government. The WPE does not regard the emphasis it places on strengthening them as separate from the efforts it should make to ensure the active participation of the working masses, which is the final guarantee for establishing a social base in a wide-ranging and strong way.

Comrades, a vanguard party can do everything it should to promote its leadership role only when it has made prior preparations that will make it capable of doing this. The initial confirmation of this preparation is the existence of cadres who will properly conduct its day to day affairs and represent its leadership in all areas where there are members. A party that stands for a noble popular aim is an (empty) structure without the cadres who will push it forward. Therefore, it is a fact that the capability and strength of the party's members is crucial to the implementation of the aims we stand for. [Passage indistinct] not correcting cadres who do not fulfil this immediately will hinder the implementation of the party line. Although the WPE recruits members that excell in their revolutionary zeal, abilities and work, it is crucial to ensure that they continue with their exemplary behaviour. The efforts made by cadres to improve themselves in terms of ideological maturity in general and in their various skills, and to be as able as they are expected to be, are crucial and this is a fact they should learn.

As this condition is the main way through which our party strengthens its leadership, by recruiting cadres with ideological strength and required skills in large numbers, and deploying them in all sectors, the implementation of this condition is stressed. Organization means system and system cannot be regarded as separate from directives. It is not so. The use of directives not only emanates from its clarity but also from the results achieved through their utilization. The incorrect implementation of interparty democracy and centralism, which are the essence of a party's healthy activities, do not usually arise because of lack of appropriate directives. The problem arises because of incorrect understanding of directives or because of negligence in following the directives.

Our party can develop a new human being and leadership of a new political system when its organs and members — in addition to generally believing in and accepting the party's aims and programs, and understanding the party line and directives — are able to periodically develop their ideological capability in order to implement the party program, line and directives. Therefore,

we should consider it our primary and main focal point to analyze this obligation.

Dear comrades, as Marxism-Leninism stipulates, history is made by the people. Since people require consciousness and knowledge to construct a new social system in which justice and prosperity prevail, party leadership is an indispensable means to enable them to consolidate this. It is not difficult to assess the kind of capability a party requires to overcome the great responsibility of leading the people. It is common knowledge that revolutionary Ethiopia's combatants have made heavy sacrifices based on this concept. The WPE's qualifications are not only based on its establishment, it is an issue that requires continued assessment. Capability is seen in terms of providing leadership that will enable the construction of a new social system, and the task of ensuring this is delicate and complex, and requires relentless efforts.

As long as we want to achieve the noble aim we stand for, there will be nothing more important than implementing this [as heard]. Revolutionary struggle can be forged and can reach its goal when, apart from correct party leadership, there is reliable participation. Therefore, we have to ensure that all the organs of the political system are able to fulfil their responsibilities individually and collectively. This applies particularly to the active participation of the working people, through their collectives, in the political, economic and all other spheres so that they can benefit from the rights they have gained through the revolution.

The lax attitude of people, evident in some areas today, towards their wealth and rights being used by individualists, their limitation in expressing their grievances, their inability to control the leaders they have elected and similar weaknesses are disastrous tendencies that should be eradicated immediately. Nothing positive can be achieved without struggle, work and strenuous efforts. Good intentions are not bad but they cannot provide solutions on their own.

The eradication of our backwardness, the building of our economy and exposure to problems can end only through our struggle and work. Therefore, understanding this we have to work, march and persevere strongly. We shall establish the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. We shall march towards our final aim with strength and by eradicating temporary problems. Let us all stand guard for the revolutionary motherland. We shall win tomorrow and today. Thank You. [applause].

WPE Discusses Economy

*EA101331 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
0900 GMT 9 Apr 85*

[Text] The economic and social report presented to the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee's second regular meeting pointed out that the only way to get rid of backwardness is to strengthen our economic development by expanding the socialist forces in line with the WPE program. The WPE Central Committee second regular meeting, which started its deliberation yesterday by discussing our comrade revolutionary leaders central report, has continued today and held discussions after hearing a report by Comrade Fasika Sidilil, WPE Central Com-

mittee Politburo alternate member, on the current economic and social situation and steps to be taken.

In his report, Comrade Fasika said that the pressure of struggling against reactionary forces and nature to push forward our efforts to construct and to speed up our social development cannot be regarded lightly. He added that to develop a habit of economizing in government administrations and society's expenditure is necessary to get rid of the current problems and to fulfill the needs of the people through economic growth. He pointed out that to create self-reliance and develop the habit of living according to the country's means is our current national obligation in order to get rid of temporary problems and to achieve of our aim.

The report explained in detail that it was not possible to grow a backward economy which revolutionary Ethiopia inherited the way it wanted because of natural problems and threats from reactionary forces. It said that due to low level ability in the agricultural sector, which is the backbone of our economic development, and natural problems there is pressure on supply of food grain and raw materials which are expected from this sector of the economy.

A report on the state of industry showed that efforts are being made to improve the productivity of existing industries, establish new industries and to organize handicraft workers into associations and that it is not possible for this sector to grow due to lack of capital. The report analyzed in detail ways of streamlining the supply of agricultural products to industry and stressed the challenge posed by private business to this sector of the economy.

Internal Party Control Report

*EA101337 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
0900 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] A report presented to the second regular session of the WPE on internal party control stated that as the WPE, which is guided by Marxism and Leninism, is entrusted with the important and historic responsibility of struggling for carrying out a national democratic revolution to ensure the superiority of the working class and to build socialism, the efforts needed to fully guarantee its competence to carry out this task are not easy.

This was stated in a report on internal party control presented this morning by Comrade Alemu Abebe, WPE Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Central Control Commission. The report, which was presented at the Central Committee's second regular session chaired by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman and commander in chief of the revolutionary armed forces, stated that the WPE will undoubtedly carry out its great responsibility because it follows a new Leninist party organizational and working method style which relates to the reality of our situation and which is based on the extensive organizational experience gained through the struggle carried out in the past years to establish a party leadership.

The report stated that the WPE's leadership ability will be based on the practical application of the organizational and working

method rules which are enshrined in its regulations and its members adherence to party discipline. It added that control work has a decisive role to play in the efforts to increase the leadership of the party's ability to fulfill these conditions.

The report pointed out that, in a society divided by a class system, control serves to safeguard the interests of the class which controls the economy.

The report added that, through control and by putting pressure on the social system of the ruling class, the control system establishes bodies and organizations in various social institutions. The report stated that in a socialist society control does not only protect the interests of the broad masses but it is also carried out through the participation of the broad masses. The report presented extensive analysis of control theory, social (?issues), internal party control, and other [word indistinct] issues, and discussions were held.

ZAIRE

U.S. Bilateral Cooperation Problems Discussed

AB102140 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1256 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 10 Apr (AZAP) — Problems related to Zaire-U.S. bilateral cooperation were brought up today at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation during a meeting between Citizen Lengema Dulia, secretary of state for international cooperation, and John P. Ferriter, the U.S. charge d'affaires in Zaire.

Mr Ferriter said that the \$25 million agreement between the United States and Zaire, signed last 29 March, was not mentioned during the talk. He specified, however, that the amount will be used for the promotion of agricultural production and river and land transportation in Bandundu. Ambassador Bofunga W'ayoko, director of the America, Asia, and Oceania Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, was present at the meeting.

Mobutu Receives Visiting CPC Delegation

AB102215 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1845 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Gbadolite, 10 Apr (AZAP) — Field Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, the MPR founding chairman and president of the Republic

of Zaire, received the visiting CPC delegation led by Jiang Guanghua, the deputy minister in charge of the CPC's Foreign Liaison Department, yesterday at Gbadolite. The delegation also had dinner with the president. Both ceremonies took place at the head of state's private residence in the main town of the Ubangi North subregion. Their discussions centered on bilateral cooperation for which the head of state expressed his satisfaction in view of the solidarity, friendship, and understanding expressed by the government and people of China to Zaire and its people.

The head of the CPC delegation hoped that in view of what has already been achieved during the past 12 years between the governments of the two countries, greater cohesion in the collaboration and exchange of (?experiences) will be established between the CPC and the MPR.

Before leaving Gbadolite today for Kinshasa, the members of the CPC delegation went to lay a wreath on the grave of the late Mama Mobutu Sese Seko at the Marie La Misericorde Chapel.

They also visited Field Marshal Mobutu's agricultural plantations. The Chinese delegation was introduced to the president by Citizen Gabembo Fumu wa Utadi, a member of the MPR Central Committee in charge of relations with fraternal and friendly parties.

BENIN

Telecommunications Agreement Signed With DPRK

AB090735 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Cooperation between Benin and the DPRK is excellent because it is a well-known fact that relations between the two countries are not limited to the excellence of their diplomatic relations. This morning, again another step was taken toward the consolidation of the bonds of cooperation between the two countries. To this end, an important cooperation agreement was signed this morning at the office of the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. The agreement is in the field of posts and telecommunications. The signing ceremony took place in the presence of the DPRK ambassador to Benin and our ministers of foreign affairs and cooperation and of information and communications. The primary goal of this agreement is to facilitate, through the exchange of dispatches [words indistinct] the flow of postal services — telephone, telegraph, and telex — between the two countries.

GUINEA

French Health Group Begins Talks, Working Visit

AB091140 Conakry Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Excerpt] The French health mission visiting our country began talks with the Guinean authorities today. Mamadou Tagno reviews these talks:

[Begin Tagno recording] The health mission arrived in Conakry on Sunday, 7 April and is led by Colonel (Etienne). The delegation will begin a working visit in the north of the country on Wednesday, 10 April 1985. The medical mission, traveling on board a Transall plane, will first stop in Kankan tomorrow at 1000. The 21-member delegation is made up of specialists in the field of meningitis control: colonels, majors, captains, adjutants, and soldiers of the French Army. [end recording]

IVORY COAST

Foreign Minister on Zairian Cooperation Issue

AB101143 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French
10 Apr 85 p 7

[Excerpts] The objective of the second session of the Ivorian-Zairian joint commission — whose deliberations began yesterday and are continuing today — is to determine the areas in which cooperation between Ivory Coast and Zaire can be developed effectively, and to remove the obstacles restricting the field of action. The commission, which is comprised of Ivorian and Zairian experts, has the task of reviving the existing relations between the two countries which have not developed as expected. Before the experts began their work, Foreign Minister Simeon Ake and Citizen Mokolo wa Mpombo, Zairian commissioner of

state for foreign affairs and international cooperation, made speeches.

Talking about the Ivorian-Zairian joint commission, Simeon Ake said that it is a privileged forum for an exchange of ideas which will make it possible to look for ways of achieving the objectives of a harmonious development. But unfortunately, this cooperation failed to respond to the wishes of both parties. The measures adopted in Kinshasa in 1981 have remained practically without effect. Minister Simeon Ake mentioned trade, for example, which in 1983 represented only 0.04 percent of the internal trade of the two countries. Simeon Ake expressed the hope that the meeting would achieve positive results to enable the establishment of a confident, fruitful, and mutually beneficial cooperation between Ivory Coast and Zaire.

Minister Simeon Ake's speech was followed by that of Citizen Mokolo wa Mpombo, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation. Like his Ivorian counterpart, the Zairian minister admitted that the cooperation between the two countries has not yet reached the point it had been expected to reach despite the conclusion of six cooperation agreements covering all economic, social, and cultural activities. "Despite the likeness of our political and economic systems and the excellence of our friendly and fraternal relations at all levels, Zairian-Ivorian cooperation has not developed as it should," said Citizen Mokolo wa Mpombo. Continuing his speech, the leader of the Zairian delegation enumerated some fields to which his country would like to give particular attention: trade and especially transport and communications. Concerning the first point, it is desirable that direct contacts should be established between the businessmen of both countries; the creation of a joint Zairian-Ivorian chamber of commerce would develop trade effectively. Concerning the field of transport and communications, the Zairian side would like to see the solution of the problems pertaining to the conclusion of an air agreement. Apart from trade considerations, an air link would be a factor of promotion of the movement of persons and goods between the two countries. Zaire is in favor of establishing an automatic telephone link between the two countries in order to bring them closer together.

The experts attending this Ivorian-Zairian joint commission meeting will also discuss the agro-industrial field and that of maritime fishery as well as the problems of information, culture, and scientific research.

LIBERIA

Mano River Union Faces Financial Difficulties

AB110643 Paris AFP in English 0339 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] Monrovia, April 11 (AFP) — Donors to the Mano River Union in West Africa, including major Arab funds, are expressing doubts about meeting investment pledges because of the union's internal financial problems, its Liberian Secretary-General Augustine Caine told AFP here Wednesday. The member states, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, were supposed to pay their 700,000 dollar contributions annually, but were not doing so regularly, and there was also demoralization because of lack of political will, he said.

A 150 million dollar highway from here to the Leonean capital Freetown was in difficulties because Liberia's funds for the project had been used up and Sierra Leone could not provide funds for its portion of the link, Dr Caine said.

The union's other major project, a hydroelectric station on the Mano River to supply power for domestic use and mining, was in trouble because the World Bank was losing enthusiasm, he said.

NIGERIA

IMF 'Baitings' Cited as Cause of Numayri Fall

AB101019 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Last Saturday, the stormy rule of President Ja'far Numayri of Sudan came to an abrupt end after 16 years reign. After days of violent demonstrations by various segments of the population, including professionals like engineers, lawyers, and doctors, the army could not help but step in to take the side of the people, in the words of the new military rulers in that country.

Any keen observer of the situation in the Sudan would not be easily taken aback by the events of the last few days. That is because the change in the helm of affairs had been ominous even before Numayri decided to go to the United States on 28 March to start what he described as a 10-day private visit. In fact, the trouble in the Sudan had been simmering for some time. For example, in May last year, the former Sudanese leader had to impose a state of emergency in the country following the uncertain situation there particularly in the southern part of the country. At that time, tension started to mount as a result of the imposition of Muslim law on the country even though the southern part is predominantly Christian. The imposition was seriously detested by the Christians in the south. The situation was further heightened through the introduction of new element politics. This was in addition to other social and economic problems facing the country.

The economy had been beset by spiraling inflation, piling foreign debts, the effects of drought, and of course the refugee problem. The situation came to a point where the Sudanese currency had to be drastically reduced in order to meet the conditions for International Monetary Fund [IMF] loans. In fact, one can now safely say that the immediate cause of the removal of President Numayri from power was his attempt to succumb to IMF baitings. For, apart from devaluing the national currency at the instruction of the IMF, the former Sudanese leader, shortly before flying out to Washington, removed all government subsidies on essential consumer goods and imposed a 30 percent increase in the price of bread. This measure no doubt incurred the anger of the people and drew protestations.

Apparently, still loyal to Numayri, the security agents, including the army, on 30 March arrested over 2,600 people for rioting in Khartoum for the 2 preceeding days. More than 800 of them were immediately tried and sentenced to prison terms, fines, or flogging

under the country's Muslim laws. Of course, during the disturbances some lives were lost.

Now the army has taken over and the soldiers have in the past few days been trying to consolidate their power through a number of measures. This is how it should be since the problem in the Sudan is an internal affair of the people of Sudan. However, it may be pertinent here to say that for us in Nigeria, and for the rest of the developing countries in the Continent of Africa, there is a lot of lessons to be learned from the Sudanese experience. One is that it is dangerous for a leader to stay too long in power. He should step down when the ovation is still loud and spontaneous. Secondly, it is in the best interest of a country to strive to attain self-reliance. Above all, over dependence on foreign loans and aids brings with it economic subjugation and robs a country of its hard-won sovereignty. In short, it breeds economic calamity. That is perhaps where the economic reliance program of the Nigerian Government has been acclaimed by many and of course detested by some foreign interests. Succumbing to IMF loan conditions is not the best way to salvage a badly ruined economy. The situation in the Sudan is the consequence of too much reliance on foreign aids and friends.

Press Comments on New Sudanese Leadership

AB110928 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Press review]

[Text] The *DAILY TIMES* highlights the factors behind the overthrow of President Ja'far Numayri of the Sudan. The paper is not surprised about the coup in view of the rapidly deteriorating socioeconomic and political climate in the Sudan. The paper in addition says that Numayri erroneously saw his personal interests as synonymous with that of the state, hence like all despots, he eventually grew impervious to public opinion.

However, the *TIMES* advises the new leadership in the Sudan to endeavor to right those wrongs which were fundamentally responsible for the mass disenchantment during the reign of Numayri. It equally urges the new administration not to hurriedly return to the barracks as promised without first of all creating a conducive atmosphere for lasting peace and enduring political life in the country. Among the basic problems the *TIMES* wants the new regime to seriously tackle are the total integration of the neglected south in the rest of the country, and the abolition of the Sharia laws.

In a related editorial, the *NIGERIAN TRIBUNE* notes that one of the major causes of the overthrow is Numayri's attempts to divide Sudan religiously. It points out that the introduction of the Sharia as Sudan's main judicial and legal process with its attendant dehumanizing propensity, helped to aggravate an already volatile situation. The paper advises the new Sudanese rulers to keep strictly to their promise to restore democracy to the people. Concluding, the *NIGERIAN TRIBUNE* urges African leaders to learn from the fall of Numayri.

ANGOLA

USSR Komsomol Leader Mishin Arrives for Visit

*MB101030 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] Victor Mishin, the first secretary of the All-Union Komsomol, arrived in Luanda yesterday for a 4-day visit to Angola during which he will hold talks with the leaders of the MPLA Party Youth Wing on bilateral relations. The Soviet youth leader pointed out that his visit would contribute to the strengthening of the already existing good relations between the two organizations.

On the 12th world festival of youth and students to be held in Moscow in the spring, Victor Mishin spoke of the fourth preparatory international session which was attended by representatives from 126 countries, or 186 preparatory committees of the countries taking part in the event. According to Victor Mishin, the preparations for the festival are bound to make it the most successful of all events of its kind.

The national secretary of the MPLA Party Youth Wing and other members of the organization's national committee, as well as the Soviet ambassador to Angola, were present at 4 February International Airport to receive Victor Mishin and his delegation.

Delegation Leaves for Sao Tome for Economic Talks

*MB101537 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] An Angolan party and government delegation led by Andre Pitra, secretary for the production sector of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, left for the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe yesterday. He is expected to discuss new areas of bilateral economic cooperation with the Sao Tome authorities.

This delegation includes Lopo do Nascimento, the minister of planning, who is also going to discuss with Sao Tome authorities new means and mechanisms for intensifying the already existing cooperation between the two countries.

An official Angolan source contacted by ANGOP yesterday stressed that the talks will center on the financing of a number of projects to be implemented in Sao Tome and Principe by the People's Republic of Angola.

Other issues on the agenda of the Angolan delegation's visit to Sao Tome and Principe include defense, security, justice, finance, agriculture, trade, information and culture.

Manuel Pinto da Costa, the president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, is expected to give an audience to the Angolan party and government delegation.

A Sao Tome and Principe delegation which has been visiting our country since last Saturday began official talks with an Angolan

Government delegation headed by Augusto Teixeira de Matos, the minister of finance, in Luanda yesterday.

The Sao Tome delegation is headed by Economics Minister (Osvaldo Pires) [name and title as heard], and it is expected to hold other meetings with Angolan officials within the framework of the existing cooperation agreements between the two countries in various fields.

BOTSWANA

Masire Speaks at Banquet for New Zealand's Lange

*MB101010 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, said yesterday that Botswana and New Zealand are committed to the principles of human dignity and equality and declared that the entire southern African region was yearning for peace and stability. Speaking at a state banquet in honor of the visiting New Zealand prime minister, Mr David Lange, Dr Masire emphasized that the two countries opposed all forms of colonialism and racial oppression. The president further stated that the two countries are in agreement to collectively promote human dignity and equality everywhere, and to further the principles of self-determination and nonracialism particularly in southern Africa. He noted that the Government of New Zealand is in the forefront of the struggle to eliminate apartheid in South Africa and colonialism in Namibia.

Dr Masire submitted that no amount of force can keep an oppressed people in perpetual silence and servitude. He said that the rule of the gun must not be a substitute for the rule of law, nor confrontation for dialogue. The president also called upon the authorities of South Africa to release unconditionally all political prisoners so that they could participate in the affairs of their country under which all South Africans by general consent live together and build a harmonious society. He expressed the hope that the current visit by Mr Lange would give impetus to the existing economic and technical cooperation between the two countries.

On the North-South dialogue, he pointed out that the wide contrast in wealth existing between the two parts of the world are undesirable and could endanger world peace. He said it was important that everyone combine efforts in order to combat poverty, ignorance, and disease; to improve the quality of life of the people; and to achieve a more equitable international economic order.

Speaking in response to the president's speech, Mr Lange promised that New Zealand would cooperate with Botswana in any way possible. He spoke well of the economy of Botswana, especially about the meat industry, mineral production, as well as the tourist industry. He commended Botswana's multi-racial tradition, and expressed support for the government's commitment to building a society based on the rule of law, and also the country's outstanding human rights record.

MOZAMBIQUE

Veloso Receives Visiting FLN Delegation Leader

*MB101308 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1900 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] Jacinto Veloso, Mozambique minister of state for economic affairs for the Presidency, has received in Maputo this afternoon (Dalusi Boualem), the permanent secretary of the Central Committee of Algeria's FLN. The talks between the two men centered on the bilateral cooperation at party and government levels. Jacinto Veloso, who is also a member of Frelimo Political Bureau, said during the meeting that the ties of friendship existing between the two countries date back to the times of the armed struggle for national liberation in Mozambique. (Dalusi Boualem), in turn, spoke about the cooperation between the two parties and peoples, which he considered to be fruitful. He added, however, that such cooperation, which includes several economic sectors, should be increased and strengthened.

Government To Return Land to Private Owners

*MB101714 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] The Government of Mozambique is planning to redistribute land to private ownership in order to relieve the food crisis. After independence in 1975, all land in Mozambique was nationalized.

Our Lisbon correspondent reports that the Mozambique Government is now encouraging foreign concerns established in the country to develop associate farming schemes in order to feed their staff.

He says Portuguese factories near Maputo have developed small but efficient agricultural units to feed their workers.

Renamo Kills 7, Wounds 5 in Manhiza Attack

PA101225 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0401 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Maputo, 9 Apr (EFE) — An attack by members of the National Resistance Movement of Mozambique (Renamo) on a wagon 75 km north of the capital of Mozambique left seven persons dead and five wounded, it was announced here today.

According to the state news agency AIM, the attack by the Renamo members took place last Friday in Manhiza.

According to the testimony of one of the persons hospitalized at the Maputo Hospital, the wagon, with 30 civilian passengers, was hit by a bazooka and machinegun fire in the attack by the rebels who took the wheat and corn found in the vehicle.

Military Situation in Inhambane Province

*MB101449 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1400 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] In Inhambane Province a number of roads, schools, and shops, which had been closed down due to the criminal action of the armed bandits, have already been reopened as a result of the improvement of the military situation in the province.

The chief of the general staff of the Inhambane Provincial Military Command Headquarters, Major Joao Cape, said that the improvement was a result of the intensification of search and destroy operations against the enemy carried out last year by our Armed Forces. Joao Cape particularly stressed the people's participation in the fight against the armed bandits last year.

SOUTH AFRICA

Botha Asks Businessmen for Help on Economy

*MB101516 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1504 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] Johannesburg, April 10, SAPA — The state president, Mr P.W. Botha appealed today to businessmen to join the government in a coordinated campaign to link economic decentralisation with the development of an intensive new export drive.

Mr Botha, officially opening the Rand Easter Show, announced that the government was investigating the establishment of an export house to give new momentum to the country's export industry.

"It is possible to integrate the orderly distribution of our economic activities with the development of an export industry," he said.

The state president pointed out that:

— Exports had declined from 30 percent of the gross national product in the late 70s to 25 percent in 1984;

— From 1970 to 1980 exports in the UK had grown from 15 to 21 percent of GNP and in West Germany from 17 to 23 percent;

— Without gold, South Africa's exports were just 15 percent of GNP.

"Vast amounts of capital are required to create job opportunities for our growing population and to provide for the required industry to develop the basic metals and minerals present in this country.

"The available capital in the country is not enough to provide for that and therefore the RSA will for years to come be an importer of capital.

"The importation of capital requires that sufficient products for the export market be produced so as to generate enough to cover the obligations of such capital," Mr Botha said.

In future, South Africa could not rely on gold alone as its most important export.

"With the expectation that our exchange rate will move on more realistic levels in future, the climate for the export for half finished and finished products is especially good."

"The government has an interdependent responsibility to ensure the progress and prosperity of all the people of South Africa," Mr Botha said.

The government had taken an important step in the process of meaningful cooperation between the private and public sector in taking the Carlton and Good Hope initiatives during the late 70s and early 80s.

"Shortly we will have some other changes which will underline that the government has ample confidence in the private sectors to jointly seek solutions for this country's problems and to ensure that we enter the future in peace and security and with daring and idealism."

Mr Botha said in this connection he knew he could rely on the large organisations but the circle had to be drawn wider to include even those companies with foreign shareholders.

In recent times the pressure in countries such as the UK and the United States of America has been against government spending.

"Total capital spending will simply have to be contained within fixed disciplines to meet the demands of our times and of the future," he said.

"The private sector is primarily geared to generate income from capital and is therefore of primary importance to South Africa."

It was because the private sector contributed nearly 75 percent of the Gross National Product that he invited them to join the government in facing up to a more even spread of the country's economic wealth.

"I therefore direct this appeal at all businessmen of our country to help the government, in partnership, to ensure that regional development and decentralisation is realised to maximum effect in order to avoid over-concentration and its adverse affects." The integration of orderly decentralisation of the country's economic activity and the new drive for export markets should be seen as the point of departure for future cooperation between the government and the private sector.

"Let us approach what has been said here today in all seriousness as a contribution towards the balanced development and special ordering of the South African economy," the state president said.

Slabbert Calls For Declaration on Apartheid

*MB101533 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1514 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] House of Assembly, April 10, SAPA — South Africa was not prepared to pay the price of the government's political

programme, the leader of the opposition, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, said today.

Speaking in the budget debate in support of an amendment moved yesterday by the Progressive Federal Party's [PFP] finance spokesman, Mr Harry Schwarz, that the budget be not approved unless the government renounce apartheid as a policy for governing the country, Dr Slabbert said political and economic factors and policy were inseparably entwined.

"Bad politics creates a bad economy and vice-versa," the PFP leader said.

What was needed to create economic and political stability in South Africa was a declaration of intent that the government intended to give all the country's people a part in governing, without domination by any single group, with a common citizenship and removal of all statutory discrimination that prevented any people from realising their full economic potential.

Government talked of reform but did not spell out its programme, and this was causing confusion.

"The dilemma for South Africa now is a simple one — how do we move from a coercive stability to consensus stability without disintegrating into chaos and anarchy?"

More important was the question whether the government actually wanted to do this.

"I must quite honestly say I do not know, and if I do not know then a young black in the townships, between the ages of 13 and 29, knows even less than I do."

Dr Slabbert asked whether the government could state unequivocally that blacks would be citizens of South Africa on the same basis as whites, coloureds and Indians, and whether people other than whites would be free to move around in search of employment and housing on the same basis as whites.

He asked whether the government had been sincere in its offer of conditional freedom to Nelson Mandela and questioned what had become of the "open-ended" forum on black political rights announced by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, at the start of the present parliamentary session.

"Was this forum negotiated behind the scenes with significant black leaders before it was announced? If so, why have we not heard anything more of it?"

"Because of long-term ambiguity the government is setting the stage for short-term instability... But worse, whatever good your long-term vision for South Africa may hold is destroyed by your short-term actions.

"You cannot arbitrarily ban individuals, meetings, movements and then say 'come out and talk about peace and the future'... it doesn't work that way ... especially if the future is conditioned by loss of South African citizenship and influx control.

"The more this government talks of reform, the more it commissions for crisis. The very issues which should be the object of reform become the terms of reference of another commission of inquiry.

"The government needs a declaration of intent. It needs to say: These are the goals we are working towards.

"The trouble is that the government doesn't know what its plan for the future is."

Dr Slabbert said the "hopeless spiral of bad-politics-makes-bad economics-makes-worse-politics" would only be escaped by starting with the politics.

"If we do this, the economics will follow."

The majority of South Africans supported the idea of a national convention to work out the country's political future, and this should be held while there were still sufficient numbers of young black people willing to negotiate.

"But that time is running out rapidly."

Dr Slabbert said he believed the threat of disinvestment by foreign countries in South Africa was a real one, but added that no disinvestment campaign could succeed only through foreign pressure.

"The fight against disinvestment starts and ends at home, not abroad. It is part and parcel of the same fight to persuade our businessmen and our workers that South Africa is a country worth working for and investing in.

"If we cannot persuade a young black man between the age of 13 and 29 that he has both an economic and a political future worth working for, we can never hope to persuade a businessman, be he one of our own or a foreign one, that it is worth his while to invest his wealth, energy and time in that future either."

Government policy at present inhibited the desire to create wealth and prevented people from being as economically productive as they wanted to be, and the country could not afford the price that had to be paid for these policies, Dr Slabbert said.

Heunis on Commitment to Decisionmaking for All

*MB091554 Johannesburg International Service in English
1500 GMT 9 Apr 85*

[Text] A South African Government minister says his government is committed to giving all South Africans a say in the decisionmaking process and to the maintenance of stability and self-determination.

The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said at the opening of a 3-day seminar at the University of Durban-Westville in Durban that this all-over goal applied to all communities at all levels of government.

Mr Heunis said the question was not whether constitutional rights should be granted to the various communities, but how it should be done without one group being placed in the position to permanently dominate another.

Mr Heunis said the vexed question had to be answered at local government level as well. He said partition, which attempted to place the groups in watertight compartments with no formal structures between them, was neither feasible nor practicable in the South African context.

Police Commissioner Testifies on Langa Shooting

*MB101020 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1012 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] Uitenhage, April 10, SAPA — The commissioner of police, General Johan Coetzee, told the Kannemeyer Commission of Inquiry in Uitenhage today he had gained the impression from information he received on the day of the Langa shooting that petrol bombs had been used in the incident.

General Coetzee said he had based his assumption on information received from various staff officers who had been instructed to gather as much data as possible on the incident in order to prepare a statement for the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange. "I was told that part of a petrol bomb was found at the scene and that fingerprints had been found on it. I was under the impression that petrol bombs were definitely used."

The general said Mr Le Grange had been very disturbed at the nature of allegations made about the incident and had felt it his duty to inform parliament at an early stage.

General Coetzee and other staff officers had therefore tried to gather as much information as possible. This had been passed on to Lieutenant Colonel Leon Mellet, the ministers liaison officer, who drew up the statement.

Reading from an affidavit handed in to court, General Coetzee said the ministers statement had been based partly on information obtained from a telex from Eastern Cape Police Headquarters. Another telex with new information had been received in Cape Town while Mr Le Grange was making his statement to Parliament.

Outlining events leading up to the issuing of the statement, General Coetzee said that at about noon on March 21 he had received a telephone call in his Cape Town office from his deputy, Lieutenant General Hennie de Witt, at Pretoria police headquarters.

General de Witt told the commissioner an incident had taken place in Uitenhage in which police had had to fire at people marching on them. "He did not know the full details but I took particulars of the time, place, size of the crowd, nature of the incident, weapons and casualties," General Coetzee said.

He had informed the minister at 12:30 pm and Mr Le Grange had then ordered that more details be obtained as he wanted to make a statement to parliament before the end of the day. "From

2:30 pm I and my staff officers tried to get hold of the divisional commissioner, the senior CID [Criminal Investigation Division] officer, the security branch commanding officer in Port Elizabeth, but they were not available.

"At 2:45 pm I spoke with Lieutenant Colonel Paulsen in the divisional commissioner's office and he told me all his senior officers had gone to the site to investigate the incident. He gave me certain information, for example that stones, sticks and parts of petrol bombs had been found at the scene after the shootings. He also said it had been alleged that part of a petrol bomb had been identified."

General Coetzee said he had later spoken to the divisional commissioner for the eastern Cape, Brigadier C.A. Swart, about investigating the incident and also to another officer in connection with details of casualties. "All this information together with other details were made available to Colonel Mellet for use in the minister's statement."

The general said his inquiries had also been aimed at gaining information on allegations received from a number of news agencies that the police had used automatic weapons and that the crowd had been on its way, in a peaceful manner, to a funeral.

At 4 pm, General Coetzee had telephoned Pretoria police headquarters and ordered that General Dirk Genis fly to Uitenhage immediately to head the SAP investigation. General Coetzee said he had been told by General de Witt that the officer in charge of the SAP contingent involved in the incident was suffering from severe shock.

Asked by Mr Chris Jansen, SC, for the minister, where information in Mr Le Grange's statement about a man dressed in black and carrying a half brick had come from, General Coetzee said General de Witt's precise words had been used in the statement. "I remember because I worried at the time that the man might have been a priest."

General Coetzee said he could not confirm that the precise words had been used in respect of the police being pelted with stones and petrol bombs, but he had been informed that parts of petrol bombs had been found at the scene.

In his affidavit General Coetzee also explained the background to an order on March 19 from police HQ that sharp point ammunition should be used against rioters and that petrol bombers be "eliminated." He said the throwing of petrol bombs was regarded by Mr Le Grange as the equivalent of potential murder.

From talks with forensic experts and from his own experience in the 1976 Soweto riots he had realised the "real and potential danger of petrol bombs, especially when they are thrown at vehicles with internal combustion engines." He had discussed this with police headquarters and was aware that at least 11 bombs, as well as three acid bombs, had been investigated at police forensic laboratories during March. "The order from headquarters on March 19 must be seen in the light of these developments," General Coetzee said.

Further on Coetzee Statement

*MB101743 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] The commissioner of police, General Johan Coetzee, says the police are to blame for any inaccuracies in the statement made to parliament by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, about the shooting incident at Langa, near Uitenhage, last month.

Gen Coetzee has told the Kannemeyer commission of inquiry at Uitenhage that the police attempted to gain as much information as possible in the short time before the minister made his statement. He said under cross-examination that it should have been clear to any objective listener that there would have been shortcomings in Mr Le Grange's statement.

Gen Coetzee said that, from information he received on the day of the shooting at Langa, he had gained the impression that petrol bombs had been thrown. It turned out later that this assumption had been incorrect.

In his evidence, Gen Coetzee referred to the increasing use of acid and petrol bombs by rioters. He said that those who hurled fire and petrol bombs could be compared to potential murderers. This was why instructions had been issued — with his consent — to eliminate fire-and petrol-bomb throwers.

Police Say Radical Youths Causing Unrest

*MB101736 Johannesburg International Service in English
1500 GMT 10 Apr 85*

[Text] A spokesman for the South African police says there have been more disturbances in black townships and that tearsmoke, shotguns, rubber bullets, and sneeze powder had been used on several occasions since yesterday.

The spokesman said in Pretoria that extensive damage had been caused to schools and houses in the eastern Cape province. Near the inland city of Kimberley, two delivery vans and four private vehicles had been set on fire.

Near Johannesburg, the home of a black policeman had been petrol-bombed. At Bethlehem in the Orange Free State Province, roads were obstructed and a tractor was destroyed.

The spokesman attributed the unrest to radical minority youths.

Police Vehicle Set on Fire Near Germiston

*MB101658 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1652 GMT
10 Apr 85*

[Text] Johannesburg, April 10, SAPA — A police vehicle was set alight as unrest spread to the Katlehong township near Germiston today. The spokesman for the police directorate in Pretoria said the vehicle was completely destroyed.

The fire was apparently caused by a petrol bomb hurled at the vehicle, he said.

In Thabong near Welkom, about 40 placard-waving pupils gathered in front of the local Teto High School demanding the resignation of the principal, a Mr Jordaan and his vice, a Mr Hanekom.

In Kimberley, Damage amounting to thousands of rands was caused by arsonists. Two classrooms and four private vehicles were maliciously destroyed by fire.

Also in Kimberley, two delivery vans had been stoned and set on fire.

The home of a black policeman had been petrol-bombed in Katlehong, causing extensive damage.

In the eastern Cape, five private homes and one delivery van were seriously damaged by fire. An unsuccessful attempt was made to burn a primary school. Damage was minimal.

Police had dismantled several illegal roadblocks, the spokesman said.

On a number of occasions the police used tear smoke, sneeze powder, shotguns and rubber bullets to restore the daily routine in these areas, added the police spokesman.

Group of 6,000 Crossroads Squatters To Move

MB101459 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1443 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Text] Cape Town, April 10, SAPA — The leader of a group of 6,000 squatters in Crossroads, Mr Isaac Gwiliza, and five members of his committee this afternoon signed an agreement in which they accepted the government's new settlement deal to move to Khayelitsha and live there for 18 months, a spokesman for the chief commissioner of the Department of Cooperation and Development, Mr Deon du Plooy, said today.

He said Mr Gwiliza and members of his committee were "very happy" they could move to Khayelitsha and especially that they would now be in a position to find work for themselves.

This was the sixth group, and second largest, to accept the government offer.

Radio Comments on Moderate Blacks, UDF Threats

MB110550 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 10 Apr 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The manner in which President P.W. Botha's visit and address to a gathering of more than 2 million moderate black Christians over Easter was welcomed by the multitude appears to have opened the outside world's eyes to the fact that by far the majority of the country's black people are moderates, who abhor violence and bloodshed. They are in favor of peaceful, evolutionary change.

However, until now it was mainly the loudmouthed minority, headed by radicals such as Bishop Desmond Tutu, Dr Alan Boesak, and Mr Oliver Tambo, that have dominated the overseas media coverage of events in South Africa. The negative has tended to receive by far the most media attention.

Even leaders such as Chief Gatsha Buthelezi of the Zulu nation, who leads 5 million Zulus in his Inkatha Movement, has not received the coverage Bishop Tutu enjoys, even though a prominent American Editor, Mr William Rushner, of *THE NATIONAL REVIEW*, pointed out that Bishop Tutu does not have a large constituency in South Africa and that his natural habitat, as he put it, is the American media.

Like the Christians President Botha addressed over the weekend, Chief Buthelezi heads a massive movement of moderate black people in favor of a negotiated peaceful solution to South Africa's complex constitutional, political, and socio-economic problems.

For instance, a South African who lived abroad for an extended period, recently returned home and, during the past weekend, witnessed President Botha's reception at the vast Christian gathering. He pointed out in a newspaper that certain people are trying to create an image of the country overseas which is totally devoid of the truth. They are trying to create the impression of a black wave of violence in South Africa, against which nothing can remain standing, he says.

This is the impression the radical South African organization, the United Democratic Front [UDF] is trying to create. For instance, its latest ploy is to try and scare New Zealand's All Blacks rugby team from its intended visit to South Africa. The UDF has threatened to disrupt the tour with mass demonstrations at airports and match venues, which could lead to violence. With this, they are trying to create the impression that such demonstrations would resemble those that plagued South Africa's Springboks' rugby tours of New Zealand in 1981, and Britain in 1969 and 1970.

The world might take note that such demonstrations have never succeeded in South Africa, as any that have occurred have in the past been nipped in the bud immediately. This has also been the official and public reaction inside South Africa to the UDF threats.

In the days when rugby crowds in South Africa were segregated, and blacks and whites were confined to separate stands, isolated incidents of bottle throwing did occur during international tours. However, for almost 10 years now, rugby crowds have been integrated on the stands, as are the teams on the field, and today black and white play together in Springbok colors, and South Africans of all colors cheer their teams on without any animosity.

South Africa has divorced its sport from politics, and the UDF stands no chance of disrupting this accomplishment of internal reform just to suit its sinister political aims.

ANC Denies Botha Enjoys Zionist Church Support
MB110555 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT
 10 Apr 85

[Text] The ANC says that the Zionist Christian Church [ZCC] supports its struggle against white rule, even though its members responded warmly to an address by State President P.W. Botha. The crowd, estimated at more than 2 million, applauded the South African president when he spoke at the church's annual conference near Pietersburg on Sunday.

In a press statement, the ANC says Mr Botha is not entitled to derive any comfort from what it calls this type of blackmail. The statement says the fact that ZCC members gave President a hearing, and even applauded him, indicates no more than that they respected the courtesy shown by the leader of their church.

The Zionist church is judged by analysts to be an extremely conservative political force, but the ANC says ZCC members know for sure that life under Mr Botha is not paradise. Instead, the ANC claims, they would support the struggle against white rule in South Africa.

Paper Criticizes U.S. Reaction to Arrests
MB100644 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English
 28 Mar 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Cut it Out"]

[Text] The American State Department is becoming impossible with its criticisms and regrets every time something happens here.

Regret over the arrest of the United Democratic Front leaders.
 Regret at the arrest of demonstrators near parliament.

The fact that people are accused of high treason is not something that should concern the United States.

We do not say that the State's case against the 16 is a sound one. That is something for the court to decide. But that the accused will have the opportunity to defend themselves goes without saying. And if they are acquitted, they will go free.

Nobody in this country has a right to interfere in the due process of the law. Nobody in this country has the right to prejudge the case, either for or against the accused.

We have an honest, highly regarded and independent judiciary. And we believe the court that tries the 16 will observe the high standards for which our judiciary is known.

The State Department has no right to call for the release of the 16, no right to interfere with our courts.

We are just as disturbed by the State Department's reaction to the shootings at Uitenhage.

The Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, fires off immediate condemnation of the shootings.

"Violence as a tactic to break demonstrations is a deplorable tactic and I am not prepared in any way to try to defend it," he says, while condemning apartheid as "evil and unacceptable".

The Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Dr Chester Crocker, makes glib judgments like: "If there is not constructive change, there's going to be chaos, there's going to be anarchy, there's going to be a blow up... that's the key pressure for change inside that country. The white minority cannot run it with guns."

The U.S. found the recent killings unacceptable, he said. Lethal force had been used as a first resource of action, he claimed.

Later a State Department spokesman said that "the use of lethal force in crowd control is inexcusable".

All this prejudices the findings of the judicial commission of inquiry.

Then, in the matter of the arrest of the demonstrators in Cape Town, how can the U.S. State Department regret the arrests when there is a law which prohibits demonstrations in the vicinity of Parliament?

Must an exception be made because of the prominence of some of the people involved? And if the police had not made the arrests and had created a precedent, would they be able to stop similar demonstrations in future?

As a newspaper, we have urged the police only to fire in circumstances that cannot be avoided. But we are damned if we are going to accept that the months of rioting, with so much death and destruction, can be blamed on them, or the Government, or the system.

The rioting has been of a mindless, savage nature.

We have still to hear the United States (or for that matter, our own political priests and liberals) come out with any condemnation of the slaying of community councillors in ghastly circumstances, the destruction of property, the Black violence against Blacks that has cost lives, and homes, and schools and other amenities damaged or destroyed.

It is not the policy of the Government to kill Blacks.

The Government has a duty to maintain law and order, in the interests not just of the Whites, Coloreds and Indians but in the interests of Blacks themselves.

For the alternative is anarchy.

We say to the State Department: Stop blaming the Government for everything that happens. It is engaged in reform. It deserves to be supported.

If you don't look out, you'll be turning constructive engagement into destructive denunciation. So cut it out!